



restoration Paducah – BYLAWS

est. May 2015



MISSION [what we do]

rest Church exists to restore Jesus in the HOME, as the CHURCH, and with the CITY.

VISION [the desired endgame]

We will restore Jesus in the HOME through rest groups and personal discipleship with an emphasis targeting men to become the men God has created them to be. We love our ladies and kids at rest, and believe one of the best ways we can serve them is to help older men, younger men, and every man learn to follow Jesus and lead their families well.

We will restore Jesus as the CHURCH through intentional worship experiences, events and Church planting. **Intentional worship** includes effective expository communication from the pulpit, passionate worship and response time for our people to respond to both the Gospel and Jesus' work in their lives. **Events** are opportunities to do life together outside of practical Bible teaching on Sunday's. The goal of every event (whether it is a Spiritual Gifts class or Trunk or Treat) is to [1] help someone take a "Next Step," in their journey of faith, or [2] Target an audience of people that haven't yet connected to rest Church and provide them with an on ramp. **Church planting** means that rest isn't an end in itself. We desire to be a Church that plants Churches, that plants Churches, that plants Churches.

We will restore Jesus with the CITY through local + global partnerships. With **local partnerships** we don't try to re-invent the wheel but instead partner alongside of various non-profits and existing ministries by participating with and serving them physically and monetarily. Additionally, local partnerships include other Churches -- we understand rest Church may not be for everyone and that's okay. We want to help plug everyone into a local Church (even if it's not rest), so you can follow Jesus. **Global partnerships** currently include For God So Loved located in Lusaka, Zambia -- but we will continually be open to where God the Holy Spirit is leading us globally.

****In the Home, as the Church, and with the CITY is part of our discipleship process for you to move from simply knowing Jesus to becoming a fully devoted follower of Jesus -- a disciple that makes disciples, that makes disciples, that makes disciples.***

Our 10 BENCHMARKS

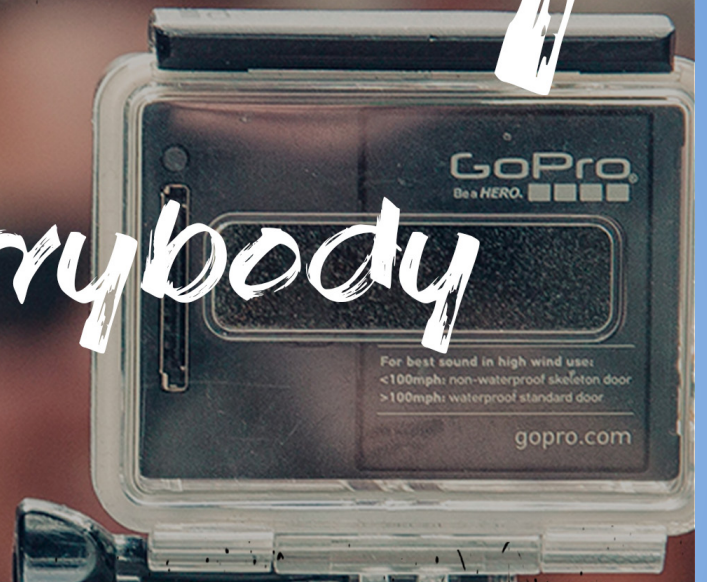
*Jesus
is our
Senior Pastor*

ACCORDING TO [1 PETER 5] JESUS IS THE CHIEF
SHEPHERD OF EVERY CHRISTIAN CHURCH. WE
INTERPRET THIS AS HIM HOLDING THE TITLE OF
SENIOR PASTOR, LEAD PASTOR, & HEAD ELDER.
WE DON'T LEAD BY ROCK STAR OR SINGLE LEADER,
BUT INSTEAD WE EMBRACE A PLURALITY OF
LEADERSHIP THAT GUIDES OUR MOSAIC.

THE **MAIN** THING
is to keep
the main thing
the main thing

OUR HEARTBEAT AT REST IS THE MAIN THING IS TO
KEEP THE MAIN THING THE MAIN THING — AND
THAT'S JESUS. WE MAJOR ON THE MAJORS AND
MINOR ON THE MINORS WHEN IT COMES TO
THEOLOGY AND DOCTRINE. IN THESE AREAS WE
TAKE A CLOSED HAND APPROACH TO PRIMARY
ISSUES AND AN OPEN HAND APPROACH
TO SECONDARY ISSUES.

Anybody not everybody



THIS IS A PLACE WHERE ANYBODY IS WELCOME, BUT WE
REALIZE IT WON'T BE FOR EVERYBODY. YOU MAY COME INTO
REST AND FIND OUT IT'S NOT A PLACE THAT FITS YOUR
NEEDS, DESIRES, OR BELIEFS AND WE THINK THAT'S OKAY.
HOWEVER, SINCE WE BELIEVE THE LOCAL CHURCH IS GOD'S
"PLAN A", IF YOU FIND THAT YOUR MISSION/VISION IS
DIFFERENT THAN REST CHURCH WE WOULD LOVE TO HELP
PLUG YOU INTO ANOTHER LOCAL CHURCH THAT CAN
MINISTER TO YOU BETTER AND HELP YOU GROW.
WE'RE ABOUT THE BIG "C" CHURCH.



We Complete

~~compete~~

WE VALUE THAT EVERY CHRISTIAN CHURCH IS PART OF GOD'S KINGDOM AND WANT TO COMPLETE THE BODY OF CHRIST INSTEAD OF COMPETING WITH ONE ANOTHER.

WE WILL ENCOURAGE THIS MENTALITY THROUGH PARTNERING WITH LOCAL CHURCHES, NON-PROFITS, AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS ALL IN AN EFFORT TO BRING GLORY TO GOD THROUGH JESUS. AS A RESULT, PLANTING CHURCHES WILL BE PART OF OUR DNA.

A young man and woman are shown from the chest up, facing each other and smiling. The man is on the left, wearing a grey t-shirt, and the woman is on the right, wearing a light-colored t-shirt. They are outdoors in a grassy area with a blue fence and trees in the background. The text 'Saved people Serve people' is overlaid in a large, white, brush-stroke font.

Saved people Serve people

IF YOU'RE A FOLLOWER OF JESUS
THEN SERVING OTHERS
IS A BYPRODUCT OF GROWING IN HIM.
OUR HOPE IS THAT EACH PERSON WOULD
HAVE MINISTRY SERVING IN EACH OF THESE AREAS:
THIS CHURCH,
THIS CITY,
THIS COUNTRY,
AND THIS WORLD.



THE CHURCH ISN'T A BUILDING OR PROGRAM,
IT'S THE PEOPLE. TO HAVE COMMUNITY WITH OTHERS YOU
HAVE TO LOVE THEM. TO LOVE SOMEONE YOU HAVE TO
BUILD TRUST. TO TRUST SOMEONE YOU HAVE TO GET TO
KNOW THEM. JESUS LOVES THE CHURCH AND GAVE UP HIS
LIFE FOR HER, THEREFORE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO LOVE JESUS
AND NOT DO LIFE WITH THE BRIDE.
WE WEREN'T MEANT TO DO LIFE ALONE.



We Paint GOLFBALLS

IF A MINISTRY, METHOD, OR PROGRAM DOESN'T FIT
WITHIN RESTORING JESUS IN THE HOME, AS THE CHURCH,
OR WITH THE CITY WE WILL SIMPLY SAY NO TO DOING IT.
THIS DOESN'T MEAN THAT IT'S BAD, IT JUST MEANS THAT
IT'S NOT US. WE WANT TO BE VISION CRITICAL
IN EVERYTHING WE DO AND ARE CONSTANTLY ASKING,
"WHERE IS GOD MOVING?"
AND, "HOW DO WE GET ON BOARD?"



WE ARE GENEROUS SPIRITUALLY AND FINANCIALLY.
WE CONSTANTLY TALK ABOUT HOW JESUS IS THE HERO.
WE PRAY BIG PRAYERS AND EXPECT BIGGER RESULTS.
OUR GOAL ISN'T TO ADD ANOTHER RELIGIOUS PRACTICE
OR PROGRAM TO YOUR WEEK, BUT LEAD YOU TO AN
EXPERIENCE WITH JESUS. EACH WEEK IN OUR WORSHIP
EXPERIENCE WE SPEND TIME INTENTIONALLY DOING THIS.
WE DESIRE WORSHIP THAT GLORIFIES GOD,
IS INTIMATE AND INCREDIBLY FUN.

benchmark #8

A photograph of a modern living room interior. In the center is a large, L-shaped sectional sofa with bright blue cushions and a dark grey wicker frame. In front of the sofa is a low, rectangular coffee table with a thick glass top and a light-colored wooden base. On the table, there are some small potted plants. The background shows a window with sheer curtains and some indoor plants. The overall lighting is soft and natural.

We're A FAMILY

WE DON'T HAVE MEMBERS HERE, WE HAVE FAMILY.
HAVING A VOICE THAT GUIDES REST CHURCH IS A
PRIVILEGE AND NOT A RIGHT. WE WILL HIRE SLOWLY AND
FIRE QUICKLY. WE ASK OUR TEAMS TO BE FANS PUBLICLY
AND CRITICS PRIVATELY. WE ASSASSINATE GOSSIP. WE
DEEPLY LOVE AND CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER



THE rest IS YET TO COME

THIS IS A PLACE OF FREEDOM AND RESTORATION. WE WANT EACH PERSON THAT COMES THROUGH OUR DOORS TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S REST: SPIRITUALLY, MENTALLY, PHYSICALLY, EMOTIONALLY, FINANCIALLY, AND ETERNALLY. WE BELIEVE GOD'S REST CAN BE CONSISTENT AND IS PERMANENT. NO MATTER HOW GOOD OR BAD YOUR DAY MAY BE, GOD'S VERY BEST REST FOR YOUR LIFE AND HIS CHURCH ARE STILL TO COME.

PRIMARY + SECONDARY *[Orthodoxy]*

- PRIMARY ISSUES - are defined as theological topics that divide Christians and non-Christians. Our primary issues separate Christianity from apostasy, or heresy, or another religion; these are interfaith and not denominational divisions. We take a closed hand approach on these issues, in other words we WILL fight to maintain them according to the Word of God. Below is a partial list of what we consider primary issues.

BIBLE – The Bible is the words of God revealed from God without any error. The main purpose of the Bible is not about you, but is about God revealing Himself through the person of Jesus.

MONOTHEISM – There is only one God. Our God is knowable, personable, and manifests Himself in 3 co-eternal, co-equal, and co-existent persons; (1) God the Father, (2) Jesus, (3) God the Holy Spirit.

JESUS – God created the world and then entered His own story coming as the Messiah. Jesus Christ lived the only perfect sinless life, died the perfect death taking in our place the wrath of God. Jesus then rose from death by resurrection. Currently Jesus is at the right hand of the Father and will return to redeem and restore His people and creation.

DEPRAVITY – Every person who has or ever will live is a sinner by nature and choice. We all inherit this disease of sin from our 1st Father Adam and 1st Mother Eve when they betrayed God in Genesis 3 worshipping their selves in place of the one true God. As enemies of God we all deserve death.

COMPLIMENTARIAN GENDER ROLES - We believe that God loves every person. He loves us enough to tell us in His word what is right in His eyes and what is sin. At rest Church we strive to have this same attitude. We try to express love to everyone, because everyone is loved by God. In trying to love people with God's heart, we are also willing to tell them if something in their life is sinful or not God's best for them according to the scriptures. We believe scripture teaches that sexual intimacy was designed to only be experienced between a man and a woman in the bonds of marriage; one man, one wife, one lifetime. Anything outside of this model (pornography, adultery, fornication and homosexuality) are defined as sinful by scripture. As a whole - we believe that God is more concerned with our hearts than our behavior. Once He has our hearts, He is the one who changes us and heals anything that is not in line with His desires for our lives. If you would like to talk or pray with someone about this subject, we would love to meet with you. Please call or message us through rest Church Facebook (@restpaducah) to talk more. Further issues dealing with sexuality we hold to the Nashville Statement, which can be found at: <https://cbmw.org/nashville-statement/>

SALVATION – Every person has the opportunity to be saved to God, from God, by God, and for God through placing their faith in God by His grace alone. No one has or will ever be saved by their works. Becoming a Christian isn't just about going to Heaven when we die, but it's about bringing the Kingdom of God to earth while we live. We believe that once you are saved, your salvation is eternally secured. [*Romans 8:38-39; Romans 6:23/Hebrews 6:6/Ephesians 2:8*]

- SECONDARY ISSUES - are defined as theological topics that create points of distinction among

Christians. We understand that these issues/methods/doctrine (to some degree) are what separate the worldwide Christian Church into denominations. We respect the fact that each person has a different Church background and context, so secondary issues call for debate and discussion but should NEVER divide us. When a secondary issue gets in the way of primary issue it then becomes a sin issue of pride and must be repented of. Our Pastors will vary on their approaches to these issues and are willing to open conversation to discuss them. Whilst you might have a strong feeling toward a secondary issue, it is important to remember it is just that 'secondary'. At times, we must agree to disagree and move forward, so we take an open hand approach (meaning that we WON'T fight over them). When discerning these topics, we encourage you to contextually consult scripture and not personal righteousness or tradition to make a wise choice for where God is leading. Our hope is that these topics might work for you as a yard with a fence rather than a prison with a noose. Our Lead team promotes an ecumenical approach to secondary theology. These secondary issues reflect the consensus from our Lead Team Pastors. Different secondary beliefs does not disqualify anyone from becoming a "family partner" at rest Church, we ask only that you're on the same page with our 10-benchmarks.

BELOW IS A SHORT LIST OF EXAMPLE SECONDARY THEOLOGY.

THE CHURCH – We believe the Church is filled with broken people who are made righteous in a moment through Jesus' in salvation but are continually being sanctified; that's why it is so imperfect. The only perfect Church is the one in the New Jerusalem upon Christ's return and final victory over Satan, sin, death, hell and demons. We believe we need the church for mutual edification, encouragement, evangelism, service and worship. There are 7 key parts of the Church we want to recognize: **(1)** Jesus is the vine; not any one person or individual church body. **(2)** Every Christian church is a branch of that vine. **(3)** There is the visible Church – the one we see consisting of current Christian believers locally and globally. **(4)** There is the invisible Church consisting of believers from all times and places; those that have been, those that are, and those that will be. **(5)** We believe that you can be "in church" and not "in Christ". **(6)** Jesus is the senior pastor over every Christian Church and ultimately all default to His authority. **(7)** Jesus loves the Church and so should we.

~While we do believe in reaching people with the Gospel through Church Online, we also believe that Church Online can never replace God's placement of the local Church in the life of the believer; simply said, you cannot practice nor fulfill all of the commands of God apart from the physical local Church body therefore to be part of the body of Christ you must consistently and actively participate in worship with the body of Christ; this includes Sunday Morning worship, small groups, and serving.

GOSSIP – rest Church is an unsafe place for gossip; so we assassinate it. One way we help make it un-safe is by practicing the **24-hour principle**. Simply stated the 24-hour principle is that every family partner at rest takes the following approach to gossip: {For clarity this is written in first person as a Family Partner receiving gossip} If you say something to me about someone else, in terms of conflict/slander/disapproval/complaining/etc., whatever it might be, I will respond, "Hey what you've said to me about "this person", that's not going to be helpful to "them," that you've said this to me. And candidly speaking it's not helpful to me as I think about "them". So, I'm going to give you 24-hours to give "them" the feedback you wanted to give to me. You need to communicate what you're saying to me, to "them" and not me. I might even suggest starting out like this, "Hey, can you please forgive me. I said this about you to 'them', and I know that wasn't helpful for you, so I want to say it to you and ask for your forgiveness that I didn't come to you first. Can we talk about this?" Then after you've communicated the 24-hour principle you are going to come back in 24-hours later and ask the

person who came to you if they went to that other person to speak about it; if they did not I can no longer discuss this issue with you about 'them'. Matthew 18 is the guidepost for this principle, we just added a timeline to it. Gossip will destroy friendships, and community and Churches....so we assassinate it; and one way we do this is by using the 24-hour principle.

END TIMES – At rest there are varying viewpoints regarding eschatology. Here are 4 primary statements we do support: **(1)** Jesus is coming back in bodily form. **(2)** No one knows the day or hour of when Jesus will return except God. **(3)** Non-Christians will go to hell. **(4)** Christians will go to heaven. Of these 4 positions we are absolutely sure of; everything else in regards to the study of end times we can agree to disagree on because they are secondary issues. You can be pre/mid/post-trib or anything in between and you are welcome here. But, we do ask that you not be a crusader and use your biblical knowledge as a battering ram to injure our family. We ask that you don't go further than the Bible goes, that's what the Pharisees did and look what happened to them.

NATIONALISM + PATRIOTISM – At rest we can be categorized as, “politically homeless.” We believe that Christians are both “strangers and exiles on the earth,” meaning that this world is not our home and our ultimate allegiance is to Christ's Kingdom (1 Peter 2:11/Hebrews 11:13-16). Therefore one's devotion to country, government or policy should never exceed our devotion to Christ, that would be idolatry. Christians can become so irrationally blinded by culture wars, debates, and their own opinions about hot-button issues that they often sacrifice the Gospel of Jesus. At rest the order is always God, Family, and then Country. However, Romans 13 directs us to be “subject to the governing authorities,” which suggests a default support for our nation; at a minimum this means we pray for our leaders and communities. We support our country patriotically so far as it does not interfere or contradict any law/command/or wisdom God has previously charged believers to follow. It's important to remember that Jesus Christ was neither Republican nor Democrat, and He was surprisingly detached from the political institutions and movements of His day; therefore rest Church does not affiliate with any particular political party.

ESV– At rest we typically preach and teach from the English Standard Version bible. We use this “essentially literal translation” because of its accuracy, validity, and our contextual relevance. We believe that any good translation (literal, metaphorical, or paraphrase) is better than no translation. We believe God's voice can speak to us through all of them.

**This would exclude corrupt versions such as the New World Translation.*

Who We Are [Orthopraxy]

LEAD TEAM – rest Church will be led through vision casting Pastors with the terms biblically being synonymous with Elders. We will always operate under a multiple Pastor system. Pastors are to shepherd the Church body with their main duties being vision casting, preaching/teaching, equipping saints and other jobs fitted to their calling.

Our Elders/Pastors are held accountable both to one another and the Church body. Pastors will nominate candidates for the role of “Pastor”, and after a unanimous decision amongst the Pastor team is made that candidate will be presented to the Family Partners via email (assuming the same process as outlined below for candidates for Deacon/Deaconess). Any divided decisions among the pastoral team may be presented to an outside Executive Pastor that will remain nameless to everyone except our Family Partners for council and wisdom.

CAMPUS PASTOR – rest Church will be led by campus Pastors who are high capacity leaders that gather & empower people, build teams and develop leaders... that develop leaders, that develop leaders. Under the leadership of the Elder Lead Team, campus Pastors will offer pastoral leadership to the congregation and community at a particular location and help ensure that the vision, values, culture and systems of the Church are being reproduced effectively. The campus Pastor's presence must be consistent in order to establish and build relationships. Although the campus Pastor's voice is critical to the team during service operations, all campus volunteer staff reports directly to the 4 elders of the main campus as opposed to reporting to him; after a 1 year trial period all volunteer staff at a particular location will report to the campus Pastor. Deacons report to campus Pastor. The campus Pastor must be skilled in vision execution and task accomplishment, he is one that gets things done rapidly utilizing his team of people along with his own sweat equity. The campus Pastor will help shepherd the people of his campus and become the point of communication for all things relating to the campus.

Under this New Testament model rest Pastors will: shepherd the Church, love the Church, and help grow the Church using their unique gifts and talents for the glory of God and the good of God's people.

**All of our “Elders,” are “Pastors,” but not all of our “Pastors,” are “Elders”.*

DEACON/DEACONESS – rest Church will be served by a leadership team with their positions biblically defaulting to Deacon and Deaconesses. A Deacon/Deaconess is to help lead and serve the Church through administration, pastoral care, praying for the sick, discipleship, and other ministry fitted to their calling. Candidates for Deacon/Deaconess will be nominated by the Lead Team, communicated to the current Deacon/Deaconess team and then a list of the potential candidates will be emailed to Family Partners. If a Family Partner has any issue or concern with a potential Deacon/Deaconess they must inform the Lead Team (NOT-anonymously) by end of business day Friday the same week they've received the potential Deacon/Deaconess list. A non-response to the emailed list will be presumed that your vote as a Family Partner is “Yes,” in favor of the current candidates. A Deacon/Deaconess submits to the authority of the Pastors. Deacon's/Deaconesses roles are not limited to what was previously mentioned. DEACONS/DEACONESSSES can all be elected to a 1 year term and then reelected indefinitely year over year. We want to get rid of bad hires quickly and keep good ones forever. Family Partners vote (NOT anonymously) “YES” or “NO” for Deacons. If a “NO” vote is taken from Family Partner an explanation must be given to the Lead Team. At rest, Deacons/Deaconesses may be asked to give advice, council, and wisdom to our Pastors, but they do not operate as a board who votes on Church orthopraxy. Theologically deacons are from the Greek “*diakonos*”, which translates as: servants, ministers, dirt workers, waiters, one who runs errands to serve the Church and kicks up dust (meaning it's done quickly).

SERVE SQUAD – rest Church has a team of volunteers who serve in various leadership positions throughout the Church on Sunday mornings or during other parts of the week. This can be anyone from rKids teachers to the 1st Impressions Team. For the Church to earthly function as God intended it to we need people to use their unique gifts and talents to serve the Church. 3 things for mention on this: **(1)** You have been given permission. The culture of rest Church is “get it done,” meaning that if there is a gap you see needing to be filled or a need not being met, you have permission to take care of that need. (i.e. - If you see a piece of trash on the ground, you have permission to pick it up and don’t need to ask). **(2)** You do not have to be a Family Partner to serve on the serve squad at rest Church. **(3)** We believe in you! We are counting on your unique gift-set to help complete the local body of Christ, so instead of being incredibly polished in every aspect our focus is to invest in, platform and help our leaders grow. As Pastor Craig Groeschel says, “You can either have control, or you can have growth – but you can’t have both.”

BAPTISM – We will baptize in the name of God the Father, Jesus the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. We believe that baptism has no salvific power. We will perform baptism as an act of obedience from the command that Jesus gave us. Baptism is an outward expression of an inward conviction, modeling our death to self (as Jesus died), our burial of sin (as Jesus was buried), and our resurrection into new life (as Christ was raised). We believe baptism chronologically is to follow the salvation experience exclaiming that you are going public with your faith in Jesus. Baptism prior to salvation means that you took a bath at Church one day.

MUSIC – We will use music as a tool to reach the lost and draw everyone closer to Christ. When you walk into rest Church you’ll immediately define us based upon our Sunday morning worship experience. We believe that music sets the tone for who we are; the style, the speed, the tempo, and the selection are all Gods which can be used to bring glory to Him.

FINANCES - The Pastor team will create and oversee the general budget with all major financial decisions standing under their discretion and direction as they work to establish the mission and vision of rest Church. Ministry leaders such as rKids and Student Ministry oversee funds for their ministries from a set monthly budget delegated by the Pastor team. To remain completely transparent with our finances all Family Partners have access to our financial statements at any time upon request from the Pastor Team.

GROWTH & DECISIONS – We will be vision critical when it comes to making decisions. We believe that complexity will ultimately eat away at simplicity. The more our Church grows the more complex it will become. Therefore we must be vision critical now; knowing where we are going and making a plan on how to get there. When we are determining whether to or not to do something as a Church we ask ourselves, “Is this an easy, obvious, strategic step toward restoring Jesus in the HOME, as the CHURCH, or with the CITY?” **Easy** – meaning someone can actually take that step. **Obvious** – meaning the steps are recognizable and align with the overarching vision of rest. **Strategic** – stating that we will not simply have a program for the sake of having a program. Another question we might ask is, “How does this move someone through our discipleship process?” Ultimately we are asking, “What does God bless?”, “Where is God the Holy Spirit moving us?, and “What brings God glory?”

PERSONAL GROWTH - We believe that God grows people in 5 basic ways: [1] Relationships [2] Practical Bible Teaching [3] Personal Ministry [4] Private Disciplines [5] Unexpected Events. When someone tells their story, 1 of these 5 things usually come up somewhere, the demographics may differ but these 5 areas of growth are transferable. Therefore, there is no need for us to do practical bible teaching on Wednesday night and practical bible teaching on Sunday 3 times; we believe God grows people in unique and different ways.

TARGET - We will reach men in their 20's - 40's. We believe that we teach and admonish one another with all wisdom so that EVERYONE might be presented to God blameless (Colossians 1:28). In other words, the life of Jesus is for everyone. But, rest Church specifically designs our entry point for the lost, the de-churched, under-churched, and over-churched. We expect mature Christians to get over their personal biases, prejudices, and traditions in reaching people for the sake of the gospel. Helping facilitate the salvation of someone dying and going to hell far outweighs whether or not someone "likes" what we are doing or not. That being said, we WILL care deeply for those who choose to make rest their Church and will invest heavily into our people in every way we can to create mature disciple cycles.

OUTREACH – We will go and we will serve. We believe the Church needs the "attractual" part to draw in the lost, but it also needs the "who are you doing life with part" to move the saved closer to Jesus and deeper in maturity. Our 'entry point' for most will be Sunday morning's worship experience. This service will be geared toward men through how it's put together and executed. We will use the best, most dynamic, most creative means that are available to us; Jesus modeled this by infiltrating His own culture by going to parties and celebrating customs of culture all while never crossing a line into sin. We will do everything in our power to have better worship services than we have at the movies or the ball game using culture to our advantage to speak the good news of Jesus. In planting rest Church, the goal is to multiply and plant more Churches as part of our DNA.

SMALL GROUPS – Small groups make a big difference! At rest, small groups consist of both rest groups and dGroups (outlined below).

rest GROUPS – rest Groups are an expression of Church outside of Sunday morning. These groups are open to everyone and centered around common felt needs, gifts, interests, passions, hobbies and affinities. We believe that God has created you unique. In fact, we're counting on your uniqueness serving as a catalyst for building relationships and growing in Christ. After all, that's what the Bible is all about: Loving God and Loving Others. Life is already hard enough, you don't have to do it alone! If none of our current rest groups seem to fit your needs it probably means that there's one you should be leading!

**We encourage you to download [our app](#) to sign up to join or lead a rest group*

dGROUPS – Discipleship Groups are made up of 2-4 people who meet weekly to study God's word, do life together, serve one another, and carry one another's burdens. These groups best function as men leading men and women leading women. The dGroup leader will look for "FAT" disciples (faithful, available, teachable) and then approach them individually to be part of their group; for this reason these groups are closed groups. dGroups last for different lengths of time depending on the group leader, but the goal in dGroup is multiplication; to create disciples, that make disciples, that make disciples. Just as Jesus had a group

of 12 followers by invitation, He also had an inner circle of only 3 He invested further into – Peter, James, and John.

**We encourage you to download [our app](#) to sign up to join or lead a dGroup*

The Pathway – Our overall hope for you is that you become a fully devoted follower of Jesus; a disciple that makes disciples, that makes disciples, that makes disciples. If you're wondering where to start at in this process as you get accustomed to rest Church, we have outlined the following path as this: **[1]** Be saved **[2]** Get baptized **[3]** Attend "rest 101," and become a Family Partner, **[4]** Attend the Spiritual Gifts class and complete your spiritual gifts test, personalysis profile and love language assessment (these tests help you understand your motivational spiritual gift, how you're uniquely wired by God, and how you give and receive love). After you complete steps **3 & 4** of the Path, a custom interview will be set up for you to assimilate into rest Church into potential groups and serve squads that fit your unique God-given gift set. **[5]** Join a group. **[6]** Join a serve squad. **[7]** Lead a group.

**This pathway is not linear, but is fluid since we are all at different points in our spiritual journey.*

**We additionally have a "[Next Steps](#)," packet that includes some other places you may take additional steps in your journey with Jesus.*

FAMILY PARTNERS – We have expectations of our family partners. At rest, being a part of this community is a privilege and not a right, therefore we have expectations for our family partners. **The reason we have family partners and not members is because members have rights (like a country club), family partners have responsibilities (like a Mother/Father).**

To become a family partner, you may sign up via the app or a connection card, but you must be in agreement with our PRIMARY ISSUES, 10 BENCHMARKS + BYLAWS and agree with the following: **[1]** We expect you agree with our VISION & 10 BENCHMARKS. **[2]** We expect our Family Partners to give financially (whatever portion that they and the Lord has decided to give) at no less than one penny per year. **[3]** We expect you to be a fan publicly but a critic privately; meaning, if there is ever dissension that you go directly to the person to work through any issues, and then follow the process of restoration given from (Matthew 18). If we find out that you as a Family Partner are gossiping or being detrimental to the health of the Church body you will receive 1 warning and then your partnership will be removed for a minimum of 1year. Every former Family Partner disciplined will be given an opportunity to receive restoration and regain their Family Partnership; this is done to protect the rest Family. **[4]** We expect you to believe the best. If there is ever a time you see a gap in communication from any leader or information is lacking, we ask that you always believe the best in people instead of jumping to conclusions. When, not if - there is a gap or you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask; you can always come to the Lead Team privately. **[5]** We expect you to abide to the 24-hour principle in assassinating gossip. **[6]** We expect you to attend or watch the spiritual gifts class, take the personalysis profile, and the love language test within the next 6 months. (when you complete all three, a custom assimilation interview with one of our leaders will be scheduled for you) **[7]** We expect you to join a serve squad, and continually serve. **[8]** We expect you to join or lead a rest group or dGroup, and continually stay connected. **[9]** We expect you to faithfully attend the Sunday morning worship experience and invite others alongside you. Once you become a FP, resource and help will be given to you in priority over others and you will have a voice to guide the health and growth of rest Church.

**To become a FP you must be 18 years old, if you are under 18 and your family becomes FP's you will be grafted in along with them. "Grafted in - under 18," means that we will do our best to serve you as part of the family and take care to the best of our ability any needs that may arise; however you don't get a direct vote if a vote arises.*

**All of the above information can be updated by the Lead Team as culture and context changes to best reach the lost and disciple the saved while maintaining the integrity of the Scriptures.*

Here are some additional resources that can help you better understand rest culture:

[Sticky Teams](#) – Larry Osborne

[Simple Church](#) – Thom Rainer

[Sticky Church](#) – Larry Osborne

[Growing Up](#) – Robby Gallaty