

CF GROWTH TRACK STEP 1

INTRODUCTION

Welcome, we are glad you have decided to take the bold step to go through our Growth Track classes. These classes are designed to help you grow in the Lord and introduce you to life at Christian Faith (CF). There are two classes to go through; you do not have to take them sequentially, but we do need you to go through both of them.

- The class you are currently watching is Growth Track 1, "Heart & Vision." It's designed to walk you through the Heart and Vision of CF, the opportunity to become a member along with the reason we believe we're all here.
- Next week's class will be Growth Track 2, "Purpose & Destiny" a class designed to help you understand your next steps to walking a successful Christian life by getting involved in Life Groups & the Dream Team. You'll also learn about the culture of Christian Faith.
- You'll also receive an email to print at home where you'll discover who you really are. You will take a personality strength and spiritual gifting assessment designed to help you understand the personality you were born with and the gifts that the Lord has entrusted to you. This will be a great tool to help you decide your strengths and how to use them in the Church.

We firmly believe that as you and your family choose to belong to the family of God, you will experience the best that God has for you.

Scripture encourages us in *Psalm 92:13-14 Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be fresh and flourish.*

This is our prayer for you and your family.

Today we will cover four major topics:

- The Story & Mission of Christian Faith
- Why we exist to build God's Church
- The 4 most important things in your walk with God
- How you can Make a Difference

Play Video

The Story & Mission of Christian Faith

Hey friends, Casey & Wendy here. So happy to have you in our Growth Track Class 1, it's a big day. Getting into Growth Track is a big step in your spiritual life, and in your connection with your church, Christian Faith. I remember over 40 years ago, some of the first things we heard in Bible school and in church, they shaped our Christian life and we're still living on it today.

When we started Christian Faith, we had dreams, we had God's 1. and we had God's word. We have loved the journey God has taken us so far but we are so glad you have joined the journey of making a difference, the mission of reaching people for Jesus.

In 2. we had our first service in a little Christian school in South Seattle with 30 people in the foyer. There are so many testimonies of the over 40 years from renting to set up to cleaning to even miracles and salvations. There are so many testimonies of "look what the Lord has done." Our first prayer room was a locker room we had to clean up every week. Our first television programs were on channel 13 in 1981 that's now known as FOX.

Amazing things have happened and one of them is how many people have said yes to Jesus. That's really the mission as us as Christians, is to help people 3. Jesus and then start the process of learning and growing. That's the true core reason we started Christian Faith is saying "do you know Jesus." And we excited about the people that have come in to Christian Faith that said yes to Jesus and then have continued on to grow in their life. That's why we are so excited for you joining the journey of knowing Jesus.

And the mission has never changed of getting people born again. Now it's hundreds of thousands of people 4. to the Lord and then growing in the Lord. There's countless churches we've helped start along with ministries around the world, it's pretty exciting.

We've always been very involved with starting churches but also 5. our local area of businesses that serve and help. From food banks to women's homes to helping people whenever the need arose in the 40 plus years we've been in this area of helping people. We love helping and serving people.

Why we exist to build God's Church

Christian Faith is made up of mountains and valleys yet we have walked the walk of faith. And we have learned how to fight for what God has for us. 6. church has been the greatest honor but also the greatest fight and we are so excited that you are joining in the fight to help people know Jesus. You're becoming part of a great heritage and a great legacy.

People ask “why did you start a church?” First, we felt like we had to, we had no other option. We had a calling; it was our purpose and our life. In **Matthew 16:18**, Jesus says “I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.” So, if you want to be a part of what Jesus is doing on the earth today, you’ve got to get involved with church. You can go to heaven and never be a part of church, but you cannot be a productive Christian and not be a part of a local church.

People don’t quite get that with our independent society and independent thought. It’s usually “I’ll do whatever I want and I’ll do it however I want to do it.” But the results of that are very much aloneness and not really connecting to this team of people. God wants us to be part of a 7. that’s why He said to gather together. Church is 8., and when you have family, you have all different kinds of relationships and family is not always easy. Family has the ups and downs, family has challenges. But God puts us in the family because He wants us to understand in learning how to live together, learning how to love each other, learning how to forgive each other, we begin to represent God well by showing how to love when it’s not easy to love, to forgive when it’s not easy to forgive. The people who do not know Jesus, they watch how to live in a way that makes them want that. That’s what church is, that we learn how to live together and we learn how to serve our community as a team.

There are two things that we’ve been trying to accomplish for these more than 40 years. Number 1, we want to help people 9. with Jesus. And number 2, we want to help people become 10. Jesus. Everything we do at Christian Faith is to accomplish those two things. In every service, we’re talking about salvation, how to be born again, asking people to make a decision today to make Jesus Lord of their life. The Bible says “If you will confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved”, (**Romans 10:9**). So that means you have to say it out loud. You can’t be an undercover agent; you can’t stay a secret Christian. You confess Jesus as Lord, you believe He was raised from the dead, that’s the beginning with your walk with God. Hundreds of thousands of people have prayed with us, and taken that step of faith to get connected to the Lord over the last 40 years. And we’re hoping we have more in the next years than we’ve ever had before.

The 4 most important steps in your walk with God

There’re people that still don’t know Jesus. We value those people that are in your sphere of influence that you can influence them for Jesus. **Step 1** – So we want you to be 11. and understand what that means and how to live as a person on earth that’s very spiritually alive to God. Connected to Him, alive with Him, born of His Spirit and filled with His Spirit.

The second part of our purpose is to become more like Him and that really needs to be a driving force in our life every day. What would Jesus do? That's a real question for the legitimate Christian. How would Jesus handle this? In our world, it's common to sue people if you're angry, bring a lawsuit if you're upset. But the scripture says **you don't take your brother to court (1 Corinthians 6:1-20)**. Regarding personal problems, you don't go to the court, you go to the Lord, you go to the person, and you talk it out. So that's a chance for you to become [12.](#) Jesus. In the world, people say things like "I'll never forgive them, I'll never forget." But in the Bible, we let it go, we forgive and we move on. To stay healthy, you have to be able to forgive. We try to make it more practical in our teaching and everything that we do.

Step 2 – We have felt called to teaching the message of [13.](#) That you and I as believers, we understand how to apply the Bible in personal transformation so that we begin to understand how to do that. Who wants to forgive a person, who wants to not be angry, who wants to be generous? All of us are trained in the opposite of that, to get for yourself, to have for yourself. Biblical living teaches us how to personally transform by the [14.](#) . So that's been very important to us as a church, to help us all learn how to live this. Learn how to live kind and thoughtful and generous. Those aren't things we naturally do and we have great love and forgiveness for our self in learning the process of personal transformation which is what Christian Faith is all about. Once you're alive to the Lord, spiritually alive, then you're in that transformation, the process of learning, growing and changing.

It seems like people go one of two ways. There's the group that says "I'm going to do what I want to do, my addictions and own desires run my life, I spend my money on what I want in my life." They have a self-centered mentality. And then they go to church once in a while. But then there's the other person who says "I want to go to a church that's holy, where people are serious about the Lord, where people are all living holy for the Lord." The fact is that church does not exist. If every church has young Christians, that means there are Christians with problems. They're still learning, still growing, still in the process. And even older Christians go through problems, make mistakes, have crisis, get divorced, and have all the issues of life come against them. All of us are in that [15.](#) place, becoming more like Jesus, being personally transformed. At Christian Faith, we don't care where you are in the process, step 1 or step 10. The fact is you're on your way. The only thing we don't want is people who have given up and are stagnate and not growing in their life. So we can all take another step and become more like Jesus.

Step 3 – [16.](#) . Having a purpose, being driven in life; not just floating, drifting or surviving, but having a purpose in life. There are a lot of people that feel the hopelessness of life, the "who cares", "why does it matter", "what's going on." Out of that produces a sense of emptiness, an aloneness and depression. But God gives us a reason to be on this earth and we at Christian Faith a very purpose driven to get the whole team, the whole family, the whole church understanding your individual

purpose and the church purpose of knowing why you're here. Knowing why you're on the earth. It is a bigger reason than the monotony of life. There's so much more that God has given us of why we're here and the value of you individually, the value of us corporately. When you have gone through sadness, challenges or the "valleys" of life, because you understand the purpose and being driven with the purpose, you are able to get [17. _____](#) those "valleys." We want you to understand your value and purpose so that when "valleys" come against you, you're able to take those steps forward and not allow depression, not allow aloneness, not allow no hope to drag you down into the pit of despair.

You can use the word purpose, vision or cause; there was a time in David's life where he was challenged by his own family, "why would you serve the Lord", what do you think you're doing", and he said "is there not a cause", (**1 Samuel 17:28-29**). That was the purpose that was driving him and that caused David to be a great man. He wrote Psalm 23 that said "the Lord will lead you through the valleys", (**Psalm 23:4**). Many people get stuck in their depression, stuck in their addiction, stuck in survival. Not really live, just getting by because they have no purpose. So think, what is your [18. _____](#)? Is it to serve God, to fulfill a mission with God, to grow His church, to bring others to heaven with you? Or is it to just pay the bills, to buy another car, to get a new dress, what's your purpose? We think the right purpose makes you a better person. The bible would teach **where there is no purpose, where there is no vision, people die young (Proverbs 29:18)**, and we see that in our world. We are Spiritually Alive, Personally Transformed and Purpose Driven.

Step 4 – The last one is exciting for us, to truly [19. _____](#). You have a sphere of influence; you have people that only you touch. You have relatives, people you work with, people you see in school or people, people in your environment that only you touch. Understand that every one of us makes a difference. You are valuable, who you are is valuable. The sphere that God has put you in, you're there for "such a time as this." **As you become spiritually alive, personally transformed, purpose driven, then making a difference in your world gives you courage, gives you kindness**, gives you a level of authority in that place and being bold and very courageous with God's goodness and God's love. Your life becomes fuller; your life begins to have that sense of "I'm doing something that is valuable." That's the thing about being a Christian, about being a part of the family, being part of the church, that you understand the value of a team, the value of each one of us in making a difference.

How you can Make A Difference

Our prayer is that you'll make a difference in two realms. One is in our church as part of the [20. _____](#), touching children, leading worship, helping in our tech, being a Life Group leader, there's many ways that you can affect people, lift them, encourage them, help them. Two is making a difference in your personal life, on your job, in your neighborhood, with your family. You don't need an official church position, you don't have to be a part of the church team to touch people's lives for the Lord and

make a difference in their lives. Who knows who will be in heaven because of you? Only time will tell. We'll never know. Who knows who will be in heaven because of your example, because you prayed for them at the office, because you invited them to a service, because you shared with them about the Lord? It's an eternal thing, a powerful thing when you decide to live your life in a way that will truly make a difference in this [21.](#)

When Casey & Wendy started Christian Faith in January of 1980, there was a word of the Lord that a person spoke over them. They didn't understand it at the time but they have begun to understand in the life of living as pastors. They said "people will come from all over the world to Christian Faith." They were 21 & 23 years old when they were starting the process, their church prayed over them and sent them out. As they've grown in church, they've recognized what the word of the Lord was speaking to them way back in then when they said "people would come from all over the world." We have found at Christian Faith that we have all [22.](#) and so many languages of people who come to Christian Faith. Even the last part of making a difference is exiting for them as pastors. God has given us the world in our church family your language, by your culture, by your strength of what you come from. Each one of us has been able to make a difference by having [23.](#) for people that speak your language, by being on the Dream Team by people that have your culture and your background. The whole church represents so much more than just looking like one particular look. It looks like across the nationality board that is a dream that God put in us by a word of prophecy back in 1980. If you think you can't make a difference because your language is different or you think you look different or have a different background, you need to understand that is us. You make a [24.](#) with the very strength of your language, the very strength of your culture, the very strength of us coming together. There's only one way that truly happens, by us loving Jesus and understanding God is our Father and we have the same Father and we make a difference in our world together.

It's never God's will that people form their own clicks, their own groups, but He wants us all working together. That's why we are excited to have all the different nationalities, that's the real body of Christ. Several times in the New Testament, it says "there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male or female, there is neither Jew nor Greek, but we are all one in Christ (Galatians 3:28)." If we could have that purpose, if we could all agree on that mission then church become powerful. We're still doing the same thing that we started over 40 years ago. Reach people for Jesus, help them become more like Jesus then bring these four spiritual truths into their life, spiritually alive, personally transformed, purpose drive and making a difference in your world and throughout our church world.

It's not hard, it's not complex, it's not so deep, it's pretty simple. Every one of us can be a part of what Christian Faith is all about and at the end of our lives, we can say "my life mattered, it was more than a house, it was more than a care, it's more than survival, **it was spiritual, it was eternal, it was Godly.**" That's what being a part of Growth Track,

our Dream Team and our church is all about. Understand the value of you. The devil wants you to think you don't matter, that's not what we think and that's not what God thinks. Your story of life, God wants to use to love other people, to [25.](#) other people to show what the Lord has done in your life. CF is made of people from all different stories of life, from different situations, good, bad and even ugly. No matter your story, we all come together to make a true difference in our world and it's all around Jesus. We love that you want to be a part of the Team of Christian Faith.

Challenge

Take these next steps in church for 1 year and see what God does. Life will be better! Choose to do the things mentioned above for one year and to be all in. At the end you will realize that you have new friends around you doing the same thing.

You will stop being a guest and start being the family. You will have a sense of joy being a part of a mission and strengthening relationships around you because you were committed.

It's your decision to jump in and to evaluate your life. After one year, you can choose to stay on this path and continue to grow and be victorious.

You are valuable. You are very important! We are glad to have you be a part of Christian Faith!

THE NEXT STEPS FOR YOU

We are so grateful that you took part in Tracks class this week. We encourage you to complete the personality & spiritual gifting assessment at home, and take the following next steps today:

1. Read the Tenets of Faith in the church membership packet. If you have any questions or want to talk about this more, we can help you connect with one of our staff pastors.
2. Fill out the church membership packet and turn it in.
3. Choose one of the next steps below that you can put into action this week.

Take your next steps with God.

- Have you been baptized in water?
- Are you filled with the Holy Spirit and pray with the Spirit?
- Are you in a Life Group?
- Is church attendance a consistent priority for you?
- Have you thought about where you can get involved with the Dream Team?

Answer Key:

1. PROMISE
2. 1980
3. KNOW
4. CONNECTED
5. SUPPORTING
6. BUILDING
7. TEAM
8. FAMILY
9. CONNECT
10. MORE LIKE
11. SPIRITUALLY ALIVE
12. MORE LIKE
13. PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION
14. RENEWING OF OUR MIND
15. GROWING UP
16. PURPOSE DRIVEN
17. THROUGH
18. PURPOSE
19. MAKE A DIFFERENCE
20. DREAM TEAM
21. WORLD
22. NATIONALITIES
23. LIFE GROUPS
24. DIFFERENCE
25. ENCOURAGE