

# Discovery Classes

## 2008 Class Schedule

### **Mission & Membership**

An introduction to our church family. Since we have members from many different backgrounds, this class is an overview of our mission as a church and what it means to belong to our family. (formerly 101)

Discover answer to these questions:

- What does it mean to be a Christian?
- What is baptism?
- Who are we trying to reach?
- How is our church structured?
- What is our purpose?
- What are the essentials we believe?

2008 Dates: September 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, & 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Disciplines for Life**

If you have taken "Membership Matters", this is a great next step to learn and talk about some basic disciplines to help you grow in your relationship with Jesus. (formerly 201)

2008 Dates: September 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, & 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Designed to Serve**

God has uniquely gifted each one of us with abilities with which we can contribute to others' lives and extend God's influence everywhere we live. (formerly 301)

2008 Dates: May 12<sup>th</sup> & November 10<sup>th</sup>

### **Sharing your Story**

Learn how to connect what God has done for you and how it has changed your life to help others see what God can do in their life. (formerly 401)

2008 Dates: May 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, & 26<sup>th</sup>. November 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>.

## Sierra's Statement of Faith

### The Word of God:

We believe the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, is the complete and revealed Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original writings, and that it has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct. (Psalm 19:7-11; Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 5:18; II Timothy 3:15-17; II Peter 1:21)

### The Trinity:

We believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These are equal in every divine perfection and perform distinct but harmonious functions in creation, redemption, and providence. (Genesis 1:26; Isaiah 9:6, 7; Matthew 28:19, 20; John 1:1, 14 and 10:30)

### God the Father:

We believe in God, the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe that He is intimately involved in the affairs of mankind, that He hears and answers prayer, that He saves from sin and death all who come to him through Jesus Christ. (Deuteronomy 6:4, Psalm 19; John 14:13, 14; Romans 5:8; I John 4:16)

### Jesus Christ:

We believe in Jesus Christ, fully God and fully man, God's only begotten Son, conceived of the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal visible return to earth. (John 1:1-13; Acts 1:11; Philippians 2:5-11; I Corinthians 15:3, 4; Hebrews 1:1-10 and 4:14)

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### **The Holy Spirit:**

We believe in the Holy Spirit who came from the Father and the Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. The Holy Spirit regenerates, sanctifies, and empowers all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer at salvation, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher, and guide. (John 3:3-7 and 16:8-14; Romans 8:26; Acts 2:38, 39; Ephesians 5:18)

### **Regeneration (Salvation):**

We believe that all men are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore, under condemnation. We believe that those who repent of their sins and trust Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit. (John 14:6; Romans 3:10-18, 23, 6:23; Titus 3:5)

### **The Church:**

We believe in the universal church, a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head, composed of people who through faith in Jesus Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit. We believe in the local church whose membership consists of a company of believers in Jesus Christ and associated for worship, Bible study, prayer, the ordinances, fellowship and evangelism of a lost world. (Matthew 16:18; Acts 2:42-47; Ephesians 4:1-15)

### **Christian Conduct:**

We believe that a Christian should live for the glory of God and the well-being of his fellowman; that his conduct should be blameless before the world; that he should be a faithful steward of his possessions; that he should seek to realize for himself and others the full stature of maturity in Christ. (Romans 12:1,2; Colossians 2:6, 7; Titus 2:11-13)

### **The Ordinances:**

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the church to be observed until the return of Christ: baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper. By baptism, a believer publicly declares his new life in Christ. In the Lord's Supper, the believer is reminded of the sacrifice of Christ for our sin. We believe that these two ordinances are not means for salvation, but acts of obedience. (Matthew 3:13-17, 26:26-29; I Corinthians 10:16, 17, 1:23, 24)

### **Last Things:**

We believe in the personal and premillennial return of our Lord Jesus Christ to earth. We believe His coming will be visible for the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the endless suffering of the wicked, and the eternal blessedness of the believer. (Matthew 24:1-51; John 14:1-3; I Corinthians 15; II Corinthians 5:10; I Thessalonians 4:13-18)