

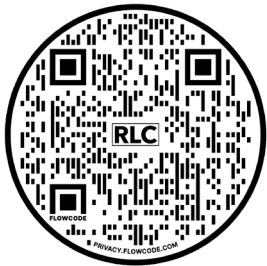


## REAL LIFE CHURCH

*Helping people know and become like Jesus.*

### EASTER SERVICES

April 17 is Easter Sunday! We will be having three services to accommodate everyone. They will be at 7am, 9am, and 11am. Join us and help us celebrate the freedom we have in Christ from sin and death! Kids ministry will be available at all three services.



### IN THE BEGINNING

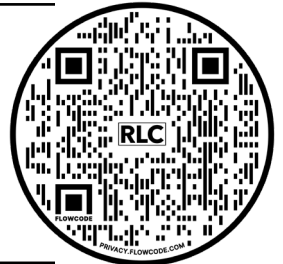
Have you felt confused or bewildered attempting to read the Old Testament? Whether you've studied it often or avoided it we want to encourage you to join this 7 week intro to the Old Testament taught by Cornelius Adewale. Starts April 24 @ 9am. Please register on line. Childcare available.

### NEW SERVICE TIMES

Beginning this week and continuing on, our service times at RLC will be 9am and 11am on Sundays. This is primarily to prevent traffic in the parking lot building up in between services. Thank you for understanding!

### JOIN A HOME GROUP

Is your life missing one or two good friends? The kind of people that you look forward to connecting with. I know where you can find them! Seriously, I am not joking. Join a home group or a college small group. Scan the code, sign up and go for it.



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# SMALL TOWN

What exactly are Christians supposed to do each day?

## **1 Peter 1:6-7 New Living Translation**

So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So, when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

1. What we learn
2. Who we listen to
3. What we think

## **Titus 3:3 NLT**

Once we, too, were foolish and disobedient. We were misled and became slaves to many lusts and pleasures. Our lives were full of evil and envy, and we hated each other. But—

## **Titus 3:4-8 NLT**

When God our Savior revealed his kindness and love, he saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit. He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. Because of his grace he made us right in his sight and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life.

This is a trustworthy saying, and I want you to insist on these teachings so that all who trust in God will devote themselves to doing good. These teachings are good and beneficial for everyone.

THIS IS THE CORE CURRICULLUM - THE FOUNDATIONAL TEACHING:

- Jesus showed how much he loves you when he saved you.
- Not because you were so awesome or how amazing your resume was, but simply because He is so merciful.
- He wiped your slate clean and forgave all your sins and mistakes and gave you a completely brand-new start - truly born again into a perfect family. You have a Father in Heaven who loves you and will do anything for you. God's spirit to guide you and help you day by day. And God's son to show you how to live in this new family.
- And while we adjust to this new family and learn to leave behind our old unloving ways, Jesus has gone ahead to Heaven to prepare a place for you - your very own room in His Father's house.

**Who we listen to will always have a big impact on what we do, for better or worse.**

## **1 Corinthians 15:33 New Living Translation**

Don't be fooled by those who say such things, for "bad company corrupts good character."

## **Proverbs 13:20 New Living Translation**

Walk with the wise and become wise;  
associate with fools and get in trouble.



# N - BIG PLAN

## **Proverbs 22:24-25 New Living Translation**

Don't befriend angry people  
or associate with hot-tempered people,  
or you will learn to be like them  
and endanger your soul.

## **Psalms 1:1-2 New Living Translation**

Oh, the joys of those who do not  
follow the advice of the wicked,  
or stand around with sinners,  
or join in with mockers.  
But they delight in the law of the LORD,  
meditating on it day and night.

Recognizing how important your association is you would be wise to do a "friend-ventory".

- Who do you spend a lot of time with?
- Who shares their thoughts and opinions with you often?
- If you want to have fun who do you call?
- If you need advice about something serious who do you ask?

Now, with those names in hand, take some time to pray and ask God to help you discern if these are people who are putting Jesus first in their lives? Do they want to honor God and trust Him? If you get stuck, reach out and ask someone in your home group to help you.

## **What we think has a huge impact on what we do.**

## **2 Corinthians 10:5 New International Version**

We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

## **2 Corinthians 10:4-5 New Living Translation**

We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. We destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ.

## **Romans 15:18 New Living Translation**

Yet I dare not boast about anything except what Christ has done through me, bringing the Gentiles to God by my message and by the way I worked among them.



# Home Group Notes

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Pray: It is always good by having someone begin group with prayer and invite the Spirit to join in on your group. (It may help to ask someone else ahead of time, some people like to prepare.)

Intro: How have you seen God moving in your life recently?

Questions: Read these out and discuss as a group, if you have more thinkers than talkers, maybe give them a moment to write out their thoughts on some of them. As always these are a tool to help build relationships with each other and grow closer to God, use them until they aren't useful.

- Take a minute and write out what influences you and the amount of time you give them. What music or podcasts? What TV shows? What news or social media? Family, friends, coworkers? Other sources?
- What impact do they have and what do they say? Does it influence how you think?
- How much time do you give to God? (Praying, reading the Bible, worship, listening to sermons)
- Do you think it is easier to change you influences or your actions? What do you think is better?

Pray Again: You can never pray too much, but this is a good time to ask if there are anything the group can be praying for. Leaders, be sure to take some notes and pray for your groups throughout