

THE

ENCOUNTER: The Decision

Encountering God in Worship

Exploring: Come as you are! Visit a worship service.

Getting Started: Make worship a part of your weekly pattern, at church and within your home. Grow your participation in singing, prayer, and communion.

Going Deeper: Allow yourself to be drawn more deeply into the music, prayer, and message. Make more meaningful connections with the people around you during worship. Begin a daily worship time in your home.

Christ Centered: Enter into worship moving your attention away from yourself and into the presence of Christ. Allow the sacraments to become an experience of the real presence of the living Christ in the bread and the cup.



SPIRITUAL

ENGAGE: Growing in Trust

Engaging God in Scripture

Exploring: Begin reading a daily devotional (Upper Room, The Bible Year, etc.)

Getting Started: Read the Gospel of Mark and 1 John, 2 John, and 3 John.

Going Deeper: Continue reading Matthew, Luke, & John.

Christ Centered: Commit to daily Bible reading and other spiritual practices such as writing in a journal or using Lectio Divina.

Engaging God in Prayer

Exploring: Begin and end your day with prayer — Just talk with God.

Getting Started: Pray for God's guidance and for the needs of others in your life.

Going Deeper: Set aside intentional time each day to pray beyond morning and evening.

Christ Centered: Spend time in silence and solitude each day as you pray, listening for God.

PATHWAY

ENGAGE: Growing in Trust

Engaging God in Small Groups

Exploring: Join a small group.

Getting Started: Become a group coordinator and help lead a group.

Going Deeper: Become a group leader and lead a group as the primary leader.

Christ Centered: Become a group coach and train and support group leaders and coordinators.



Prayer and scripture reading in Small Groups

EXPRESS: Gratitude

Expressing Faith through Service



Exploring: Serve somewhere, anywhere...

Getting Started: Assess your spiritual gifts on the church website resource page or use the following spiritual gift assessment link: www.umc.org/en/content/spiritual-gifts

Going Deeper: Commit to serving based on how you are gifted on an ongoing basis.

Christ Centered: Live out your calling to be a servant leader, daily.

Expressing Faith through Generosity

Exploring: Learn how financial gifts support the Ministry and Mission of the church.

Getting Started: Budget a specific amount of money each week/month to give to God's work.

Going Deeper: Commit to move toward tithing 10% of your income to God's work through proportional giving.

Christ Centered: Give the first 10% of all income to God's work and be open to more.



Expressing Faith through Influence



Exploring: Build friendships with co-workers and neighbors who do not attend worship.

Getting Started: As friendships grow, be open to sharing your faith story.

Going Deeper: When your relationship is strong and you trust one another, begin a conversation, and invite them to worship with you.

Christ Centered: Remain partners with those who have come to understand faith and journey with them as lifelong friends in faith, whether they choose to attend worship or not.