

Welcome to Manna Church! We are Glad You are Here!

What to Expect On a Typical Sunday

The worship experience at Manna Church lasts approximately 70-75 minutes. It begins with a time of worship and a brief period of announcements, followed by a biblical and practical message delivered by one of our pastors. Service concludes with another short time of worship and prayer.

Connection Card

If you're a first-time guest, we would love for you to fill out a connection card. No one is planning to call you or come by your house—we just want to thank you for joining us today and to let you know what is available to you here at Manna.

Free Gift for First-Time Guests

If it is your first time with us, we have a gift available for you in the lobby at the end of service. We simply want to give you a gift to thank you for being with us today!

Small Groups

Manna Church is not a church with small groups; we are a small groups church. On Sundays, we gather corporately to be inspired by the presence and Word of God. However, friendships, discipleship, and growth primarily happen in the context of a small group. You can find a list of available Small Groups to join by going on our website, cos.manna.church, and clicking on the "Connect" tab.

Manna Kids

We strive to provide a clean and safe environment where children can experience and enjoy the love of Jesus. The Nursery/Preschool experience is available for kids 6 weeks through 5 years old, and the Elementary experience is for children in Kindergarten through 5th grade. We would love to have your child join us!

Manna Students

If you are in 6th to 12th grade, come join us for Manna Students on Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Manna Church Offices! We meet weekly during the small group cycle for games, worship, biblical teachings, and small groups! We hope you will join us!

Ways to Give

For a safe and secure way to give to Manna Church, scan the QR Code. Here, you can schedule a one-time gift or establish and manage a recurring gift through the Online Portal.



Pizza With the Pastor

Whether you're visiting for the first time or have been part of Manna Church for a while, Pizza with the Pastor is a fantastic way to get connected and learn more about the mission and vision of the church. Join us on the first Sunday of every month at 5:00 P.M. at the Manna Church Offices for an evening with our pastors and staff. You can register online or at the Info Center in the main lobby! Childcare is provided.

Growth Track

The Manna Church Growth Track is a series of small groups designed to facilitate your growth as a healthy, effective follower of Jesus Christ. Wherever you are in your journey, the Growth Track can equip you to fully experience your calling in God and your part in impacting your world. Sign up for FirstStep or NextStep by going online or registering at our Info Center Table in the Main Lobby.

FirstStep. In FirstStep, you will discover what a balanced, integrated, and healthy life of a disciple of Jesus looks like, specifically within the context of Manna Church.

NextStep. NextStep is here for you to learn about Manna Church's Mission, Vision, and Values. You'll discover who we are, why we're here, where we're going, and how you can get connected while exploring God's unique purpose for your life.

LeaderStep. LeaderStep prepares you to lead at Manna Church in areas such as small groups or serve teams. Built on our 12 Operational Principles, LeaderStep fosters spiritual growth, authentic relationships, and Kingdom impact, helping you discover how God can use you to make a difference. (Must have completed NextStep)

Sermon Discussion Questions

Take the message deeper this week! We've created questions for your own personal devotional time and for rich conversation in your small group. Find them by scanning the QR code and clicking on "Sermon Notes."





Outrunning Shadows

**You'll never get away from the shadow _____
unless _____ what is making the shadow.**

Luke 15:11-16 (ESV) - And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

The Anatomy of a Bad Decision

1. _____

- **Bad decisions always _____ with a bad**
_____.

2. _____

- _____ **people make** _____.

3. _____

- **Lack of counsel leads to an _____ of** _____.

4. _____

Proverbs 12:15a (ESV) - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes,

Proverbs 29:11a (ESV) - A fool gives full vent to his spirit

Proverbs 1:7b (ESV) - ,fools despise wisdom and instruction

Luke 15:17-19 (ESV) - "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."

The Better Path to Wisdom

1. _____

James 1:5 (ESV) - If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

Proverbs 4:7a (NIV) - The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom

Proverbs 9:10a (ESV) - The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,

- **Wisdom begins at the point you recognize you _____
_____, and only God _____.**

2. _____

Proverbs 12:15 (ESV) - The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

- **A wise person trusts counsel over their own _____
and their own _____**

3. _____

Psalms 19:7 (NIV) - The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV) - All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:15 (NIV) - and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Individual Reflection

1. Observation

What were the key steps that led the prodigal son to make such a destructive decision, and how do you see those same patterns show up in your own life?

2. Reflection

Think of a time when one of your decisions started with the wrong desire or attitude. How did that initial posture affect the outcome?

3. Application

Who in your life do you currently turn to for godly wisdom and counsel? How can you more intentionally invite their input before making decisions?

4. Transformation

The younger son “came to himself” before turning back to the father. What does it look like for you to “come to yourself” in areas where shadows or consequences are present in your life?

5. Deep Spiritual Formation

Where do you most need God’s wisdom today, and how will you actively seek Him through prayer, Scripture, or trusted counsel this week?

Small Group Discussion

1. Observation

What stands out to you about the younger son’s decision-making in Luke 15:11–16, and how might you describe the “anatomy of a bad decision” in your own words?

2. Reflection

Why do you think people often believe they know better than God or wise counsel? Where have you seen that play out in yourself or others?

3. Application

Who has been a voice of godly wisdom in your life? How did listening—or not listening—to them shape your decisions?

4. Transformation

Have you experienced a moment like the prodigal son where you “came to yourself” and realized you needed to return to God? How did that turning point change your direction?

5. Deep Spiritual Formation

As a group, how can we help each other consistently choose the path of wisdom rather than repeating cycles of poor decisions? What practical rhythms (prayer, accountability, counsel) can we build together?