

## 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](http://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 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> 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 (1580 E. Cheyenne Mtn. Blvd) 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."





## Through His Word

**The better you \_\_\_\_\_, the better you'll \_\_\_\_\_.**

Hebrews 4:12 (ESV) - For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

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.

1 Thessalonians 2:13 (ESV) - And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers

**1. Accept the \_\_\_\_\_.**

**2. Read God's \_\_\_\_\_, listening for His \_\_\_\_\_.**

John 14:26 (ESV) - But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

Ephesians 1:16-18 (ESV) - I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, 18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

## How?

- **Read the \_\_\_\_\_.**
- **Ask God to \_\_\_\_\_.**
- **Look for \_\_\_\_\_.**
- **Put it \_\_\_\_\_.**

James 1:22 (NIV) – Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

## Personal Reflection

### 1. Voice Recognition

You recognize the voice of someone you know well. How familiar are you with God's voice through Scripture, and what has shaped that familiarity (or lack of it)?

### 2. Authority Check

Do you truly accept the Bible as God's authoritative Word, or do you tend to filter it through culture, tradition, reason, or feelings when it challenges you?

### 3. Reading vs. Listening

When you read the Bible, are you primarily looking for information—or are you intentionally listening for what God may be speaking to you personally?

### 4. What's Standing Out?

Can you recall a recent time when a passage of Scripture stood out to you in a specific way? How did you respond to what God was highlighting?

### 5. Obedience and Application

Is there something God has already spoken to you through His Word that you haven't yet put into practice? What's holding you back from obedience?

## Small Group Discussion

### 1. Knowing God's Voice

Why do you think knowing Scripture is essential to recognizing God's voice? What happens when believers try to hear God apart from His Word?

### 2. Competing Authorities

Which "grids" (culture, tradition, reason, feelings) most commonly compete with Scripture for authority in our lives today? How do you see that play out?

### 3. Written Word vs. Spoken Word

What does it mean to read the written Word in search of the spoken Word? How have you experienced the Holy Spirit making Scripture come alive?

### 4. Settling for Secondhand Bread

The bird feeder illustration shows how easy it is to rely on what others feed us spiritually. What are the dangers of living on someone else's revelation instead of pursuing God personally?

### 5. From Hearing to Doing

James says we deceive ourselves when we hear the Word but don't do it. What practical steps help move Scripture from reading → listening → obedience?