

CHAMPIONS 101



CHAMPIONS 101 GUIDE

1. MEMBERSHIP, HISTORY & VISION
2. BASIC BELIEFS AND EXPECTATIONS
3. GROWTH MEASURES FOR SUCCESS
4. SPIRITUAL GIFTINGS ASSESSMENT AND TEAM CONNECTION

BETHESDA

Making Champions for Jesus Christ

Southeast

407 S. Clovis Ave

Fresno, CA 93727

Sun 10 AM

Central

3723 E. Dakota Ave

Fresno, CA 93726

**Sun 8:15 AM/11 AM &
6 PM**

Riverpark

81 E. Pinedale

Fresno, CA 93650

Sun 10 AM

PASTOR TOBAISE BROOKINS

559.225.1673

Bethesdaexperience.com



GOD'S PLAN

OUR PURPOSE

Why is Membership So Important?

From Rick Warren, "Purpose Driven Church"

- 1. It identifies a you as a genuine believer (Eph. 2:19; Rom. 12:5)
- 2. It provides a spiritual family to support and encourage you in your walk with Christ (Gal. 6:1-2; Heb. 10:24-25)
- 3. It gives you a place to discover and use your gifts in ministry (1 Cor. 12:4-27)
- 4. It places you under the spiritual protection of godly leaders (Heb. 13:17; Acts 20:28-29)
- 5. It gives you the accountability you need to grow (Eph 5:21)

1. It identifies a you as a genuine believer

Ephesians 2:19 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁹ Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God

Romans 12:5 King James Version (KJV)

⁵ So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

It provides a spiritual family to support and encourage you in your walk with Christ

Galatians 6:1-2 King James Version (KJV)

6 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

² Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

Hebrews 10:24-25 King James Version (KJV)

²⁴ And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

²⁵ Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

It gives you a place to discover and use your gifts in ministry

²⁰ But now are they many members, yet but one body.

It places you under the spiritual protection of godly leaders

Hebrews 13:17 King James Version (KJV)

¹⁷ Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

Acts 20:28-29 King James Version (KJV)

²⁸ Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

²⁹ For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.

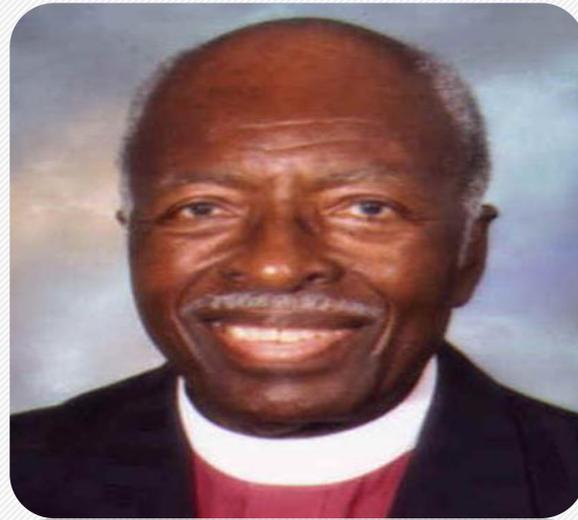
It gives you the accountability you need to
grow

Ephesians 5:21 King James Version (KJV)
**21 Submitting yourselves one to another in
the fear of God.**

HISTORY AND VISION

Session 1

THE HISTORY



Bishop Henry L. Johnson, Founder
Bethesda est. 1957

Bethesda was originally founded by Bishop Henry L. Johnson, February 5, 1957 under the name Bethesda Temple of the Apostolic Faith in Corcoran, CA. The Church was moved to 2489 Rose Avenue, Fresno, CA for operations, July, 1959. The Church's name was formally changed to Bethesda Apostolic Church and incorporated with the state of California, January 9, 1962. Under the leadership of Bishop Henry L. Johnson the Bethesda experienced steady growth covering the span of 50 years. Bishop Henry L. Johnson operated as Senior Pastor and Chief Executive Officer until December 10, 2010. Bishop Henry L. Johnson appointed Tobaise Brookins as Senior Pastor and Chief Executive Officer of the church on December 10, 2010, received votes of confidence by the Full Board of Trustees and Deacons, and the congregation. On May 14, 2011, Tobaise Brookins was given an installation ceremony to establish him as Senior Pastor and Chief Executive Officer of the Church.

THE PASTOR



Tobaise Brookins, Senior Pastor

Tobaise Brookins is a “Man on God’s Mission” with the anointing and heart to reconcile all people back to God. He is a man of vision with a passion for action. He has a unique creativity and gift for making God's word applicable to this generation. He walks in integrity and teaches the Word of God without compromising to the macro-systems in the local regions and world.

He is a living example of having love for the wounded, weak, and the suffering, and is a trailblazer in the arena of evangelism, church empowerment, cultural shift, leadership, and reconciliation for the whole family. Tobaise Brookins is the Senior Pastor of Bethesda, a body of radical, born again believers who have been commissioned to *Bring Healing to the Nations*. He is a committed husband to Antionette Brookins and the father of three beautiful children. Tobaise Brookins has brought change and revival to the Central Valley region of California, based out of Fresno. His assignment is to teach the gospel of Jesus Christ with passion and compassion, lead radical change for this last generation, and to build leaders for deployment.

Tobaise Brookins is married to Antionette and has three daughters, Essence, Kira, and Tai.

Proverbs 29:18

Where there is no vision, the people perish...

Habakkuk 2:2

And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

THE MISSION AND VISION

Session 1 Continued



Simple Church Mission

Bethesda is a church established to make champions for Jesus Christ in a culture of love, ministry training and deployment to bring healing to the nations.

Simple Church Vision

A multisite church movement designed to make champions for Jesus Christ who bring healing to the nations through worship, maturing through life groups, engaging in personal evangelism, and serving on a ministry team.

Vision

Bethesda is a 20,000 member multisite, multiethnic, multigeographic Jesus resource center committed to spiritual formation, education development, and social engagement by making, developing and deploying Champions for Jesus Christ to meet the holistic needs of people in their societal context.

Bethesda educates the community through multiple early learning centers, a K-12 private school, a high school charter school, and an accredited University.

Bethesda meets the social needs of at-risk and impoverished communities through its transitional homes, empowerment centers, work-force vocational training centers, and in-kind donation centers.

**We become champions as we
worship Jesus Christ our eternal
Champion**

1

Worship

I will worship God once a week with the corporate body
and during my private time.

**We become champions as we
worship Jesus Christ our eternal
Champion**

a. Worship services at all sites

b. Personal worship

-Listening to Christian music

-Studying the word of God

**-Worshipping with our Time, Talent
and Tithe**

**We become champions as we run
with champions and learn what
the eternal Champion says about
Himself and our purpose so that
we mature spiritually.**

Life Groups

I will join a life group and participate faithfully.



**We become champions as we run with
champions and learn what the eternal
Champion says about Himself and our
purpose so that we maturity spiritually.**

-Life Groups

-B2 University

-Church wide Bible studies

-Specialized groups



**We become champions as we seek
to reach undiscovered and fallen
champions, and restore them to
championship status**

Evangelism

I will share my faith and invite people to Bethesda.

3

We become champions as we seek to reach undiscovered and fallen champions, and restore them to championship status

a. Churchwide Evangelism

b. Personal Evangelism

c. Special Holidays

d. Community Outreach

e. Community Outreach Events



**We become champions as we
serve on ministry teams to
bless our community.**



4

Ministry Teams

I will serve on a ministry team to bless our community.

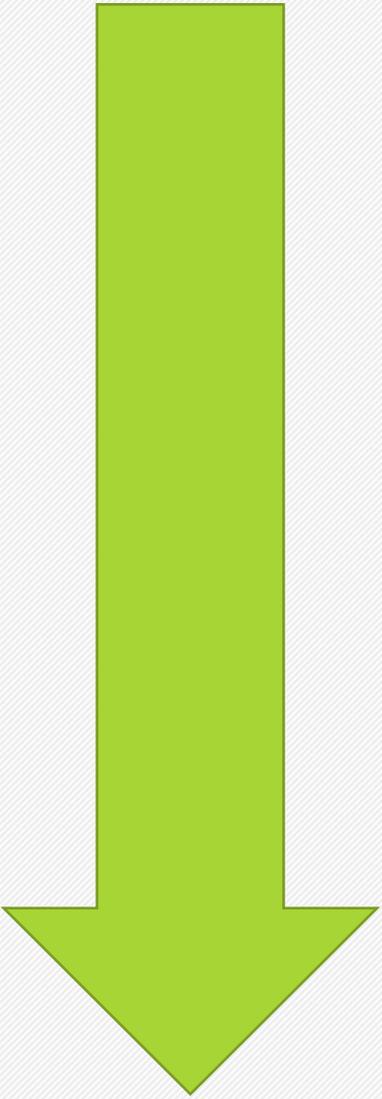
We become champions as we serve on ministry teams to bless our community.

a. Joining a ministry team

b. Volunteering time, talent and offerings for special outreaches

c. Seeking opportunities to serve with partner ministries





Visitor/Worshipper

Member

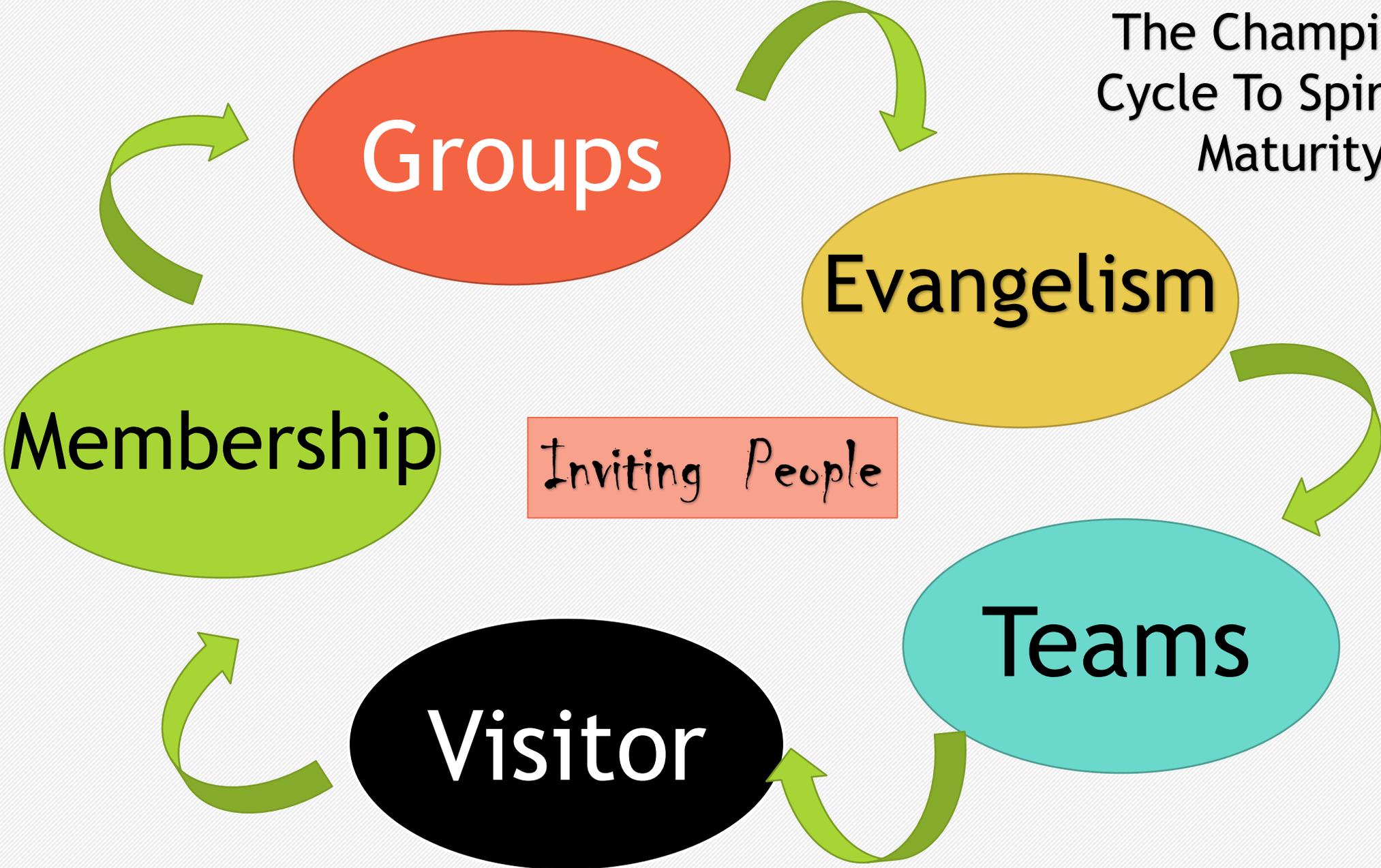
Group

Evangelism

Team

-Spiritual Maturity-

The Champions'
Cycle To Spiritual
Maturity



Groups

Evangelism

Teams

Membership

Visitor

Undiscovered Champions

Potential Champions

Connected Champions

Maturing Champions

Leading Champions

Active

Joining

Visiting

Uninvited/Not Attended



SPIRITUAL MATURITY EXPLAINED

Attends a service regularly

Attends and participates in a group regularly

Gives their time, talent and tithe regularly

Engages in personal evangelism

Demonstrates the character of Christ

How do you interact with other champions?

Do you demonstrate love, compassion, and patience with undiscovered and discovered champions?

How do you handle conflicts?

Do you demonstrate a passion for spiritual growth through studying the word of God and a personal life of devotion?

Do you actively model the character of Christ within your family?

Am I passionately serving on a ministry team?

Do I lead a personal life of sharing my faith and inviting people to Christ?

BASIC DOCTRINAL BELIEFS FOR GROWTH

Session 2



DOCTRINAL COMMITMENT 1: THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD

WE BELIEVE that the Bible is the inspired, infallible Word of God, written by holy men of old as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

(Matthew 5:18, 24:35, 2 Timothy 3:15-16, 2 Peter 1:20-21)

DOCTRINAL COMMITMENT 2: THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD

WE BELIEVE in one God who is infinite in power, holy in nature, attributes and purpose; Omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent. We believe that He has revelatory expressions as the Father in creation; Son in redemption, and as Holy Spirit in His grace that never leaves those who trust Him. (Genesis 1:1; Deuteronomy 6:4; Psalms 139:8-10; Isaiah 9:6, 44:6-8; Joel 2:28, John 14:9, 16-18; Ephesians 4:8; II Cor. 5:18-19; Colossians

DOCTRINAL COMMITMENT 3: SALVATION COMES THROUGH JESUS

WE BELIEVE in Jesus dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, for it pleased the Father that in Him should all the fullness dwell. (John 14:8-9, 2 Corinthians 5:18-19, Col. 1:19, 2:9)

WE BELIEVE that Jesus is the only saving NAME (Authority) given to humanity. (Luke 24:23; John 14:13-14; Acts 2:21, 2:38, 4:12; Romans 10:13; Ephesians 1:21; Philippians 2:9-11; Colossians 3:17)

WE BELIEVE in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. We believe that He ascended on high and has sent His spirit, the Holy Ghost, which was poured out at Jerusalem over 1900 years ago, and it is the same spirit that is filling the hearts of those who diligently seek him today. (Matt c27-28; Mark c15-16; Luke c23-24; John 7:37-39, 14:16-20, 26; Acts 2:1-4)

WE BELIEVE in repentance from sin, belief unto God, submission to baptism in water by immersion in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and in the baptism or infilling of the Holy Ghost with speaking in other tongues as the spirit gives utterance. We believe the initial sign of one's infilling is speaking in tongues. This constitutes the New Birth experience. (Matthew 28:19, Mark 16:16-17, John 3:3-5, 7:37-39; c14:26, Acts 2:1-4, 37-41, 8:12-19, 35-39, 9:17-19, 10:44-48, 16:14-15, 16:31-34, 19:1-7; Romans 6:3-5, 8: 9, 10:9; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:26-27; Ephesians 4:4-6; 1 Peter 3:20-21)

DOCTRINAL COMMITMENT 4: I WILL SHARE MY FAITH AND INVITE PEOPLE TO CHURCH

WE BELIEVE in the great commission and that it is every believers' duty to share the gospel with men and women of all races, ethnicities, and socio-economic status; leading them to the belief and the new birth experienced, followed by a life of discipleship unto good works.

(Matthew 5:13-16, c10, 28:18-20, Mark 16:15; Luke 24:46-48; John 3:15-17; Acts 1:8; Romans 1:16)

DOCTRINAL COMMITMENT 5: I WILL STRIVE TO LIVE A LIFE FREE FROM SIN

WE BELIEVE in a holy sanctified life based on the commandments of God and the power of His spirit. (Exodus 20:1-17, Leviticus 10:10; Deuteronomy c28, 30:19-20, Joshua 22: 5, Psalm 51, Isaiah 5:14, Ezekiel 18:20-21, Matthew 5:28-30, 15:7-20, 19: 2-10, John 14:5, Romans 1:18-32, 8:1-16, 12:1-3, 1 Corinthians 3:13-18, 5:7-13, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 17, Titus 2:1-8, 12-15, 1 Peter :17-19, Jude, Revelation 21:8)

GROWTH MEASURES FOR CHRISTIAN SUCCESS

Session 3



-Life-Groups: Why? Psalm 1:1-3,
Acts 2:44-47, Galatians 6:1-2, Ephesians
4:11-16, Hebrews 10:24-25



Guiding Questions:

1. Why do we participate in life groups?
2. What if I'm not growing in my life group?
3. How can I get the rest of my family into a life group?

Ministry Teams: Why?

Deuteronomy 10:12, 28:47, Romans 12:3-18, 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4:12-13

Guiding Questions:

1. What are teams and what do they allow me to do?
2. What are my opportunities for serving on a team?
3. How do I sign up for a team?
4. What if I stop enjoying my team?
5. How do I budget my time so I can be effective on my team?

-Tithing and Giving: Why?

Gen 14:20, Leviticus 27:30, Proverbs 3:9,
Malachi 3:8-10, Luke 6:38, Acts 2 1
Corinthians 16:1-2, 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Guiding Questions:

1. What is my tithe?
2. Who do I give it to?
3. How are my tithes used?
4. What are my opportunities for giving my tithe, offering, and special gift?

Sharing My Faith: Why?

Matthew 5:13-16, c10, 28:18-20, Mark 16:15;
Luke 24:46-48; John 3:15-17; Acts 1:8; 2:47,
Romans 1:16

Guiding Questions:

1. Why is sharing my faith important?
2. Is there support for me to share my faith?
3. What are the different ways for me to share my faith?

SPIRITUAL ASSESSMENT, CONNECTIONS, & DIVING BOARD

Session 4



It is important that you find your “fit” within the church. God wants to use you, but in order for that to take place you have to be positioned where your giftings, talents, and potential can be maximized.

There are 7 Core Teams at Bethesda which are the ministry spheres of impact:

1. Go Team: Outreach, Evangelism, Ministers, Social Needs of the Community.
2. Wow Team: Greeting, Hospitality, Culinary Arts, Ushers, Armor Bearers, Health Care, Concierges
3. Shock and Awe: Media, Audio, Visual, Building and Grounds, Video.
4. Worship Team: Praise and Worship, Choir, Dancers, Flaggers, Mimers, Drama
5. Net Team: Visitor Follow Up, Champion Retention, New Champion Connections
6. Generation Now Team: Nursury, Children, Middle School, High School, College Hill.
7. Life Groups: Bible Studies, Women, Men, Couples, B2 Classes, Specialty Classes.

Use the Spiritual Assessment tool to find your “fit”

THE CHAMPION'S MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

Session 4 Continued

THE CHAMPION'S COVENANT

- The Bible is the Word of God
- There is only one God
- Salvation comes through Jesus Christ
- I will strive to live a life free from sin
- I will attend worship service regularly
- I will join and faithfully participate in a life group
- I will give my tithes and offerings faithfully
- I will serve on a ministry team and bless the community
- I will share my faith and invite people to church
- I will maintain good conduct and fellowship with other members of Bethesda. As a Champion, I will support my pastor, the vision God has given him and follow the direction of leadership. I will maintain an image above reproach on social media and in social circles. I will be a life long Christ follower. I am a Champion.

I UNDERSTAND THAT BY SIGNING BELOW, FAILURE TO FULFILL THE COVENANT AGREEMENT WILL HINDER MY PROGRESS TOWARDS MATURITY IN GOD AND MAY RESULT IN A BREECHED RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO FULFILL THE COVENANT AGREEMENT MAY RESULT IN BEING PLACED ON NON-ACTIVE STATUS, NON-VOTING STATUS, OR COMPLETE REMOVAL FROM CHURCH MEMBERSHIP ROLL.

NAME (PRINT) _____

NAME (SIGNATURE) _____