



Saddle Up Seminar

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SADDLE UP!

I am excited that you are considering us for your church family. The Elders and I want to be a blessing in your life, to help you grow in Jesus, and to mature for His Kingdom work. Ephesians 4:11-13. ¹¹ And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of The Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

So Saddle up and grow with us!

Pastor,
Brandon Greene

Part 1

Experiencing a Real Relationship with God

I. Our Core Beliefs in the Gospel

What the Bible says:

1) God loves us and wants a real relationship with us.

Jeremiah 31:3 "I have loved you with an everlasting love" (NIV)

1 John 4:16b "God is love" (NIV)

2) Sin separates us God.

Romans 6:23a "For the wages of sin is death" (NIV)

Romans 3:23 "All have sinned and fall short of God's glory" (NIV)

Isaiah 53:6 "Each of us has turned to his own way" (NIV)

Isaiah 59:2 "But your iniquities (sins) have separated you from your God" (NIV)

3) Jesus is the bridge to a real relationship with God.

Romans 5:8 God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (NIV)

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (NIV)

Romans 6:23b "The free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (NAS)

Colossians 2:14 "He cancelled the record that contained the charges against us. He took it and destroyed it by nailing it to Christ's cross". (NLT)

4) You cross the bridge to a real relationship with God by faith.

Ephesians 2:8 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God" (NIV)

Romans 10:9 "That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved." (NIV)

II. We believe a Christ Follower:

1. Has called upon the Name of the Lord Jesus to save them from their sins.

2. Has surrendered their lives to Jesus Christ and is Born again into the Family of God.

Jesus said, "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? Luke 6:46

Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3

3. Has publicly declared their faith through Baptism.

Baptism is our first act of obedience as a believer. It is a public declaration, an outward expression of the inward death, burial, and resurrection we have in Christ Jesus. Those who desire to become members of Triple S Cowboy Church must be baptized or have been Biblically baptised by immersion.

And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

4. Has the Holy Spirit within them.

15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. John 14:15-17

5. Will grow and give in the life of a life-giving church.

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Romans 12:4-5

15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head— Christ— 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love. Ephesians 4:15-16

Part 2

Experiencing Real Relationships with God's People

I. Why the Church?

When people hear the word church, what are some things that come to mind?

In the Bible the word for church is the word for 'gathering', assembly, or 'called out ones'. It is referring, not to a building, or an organization, but a group of **people**. According to the Bible, then, a church is a **group of God's people**.

The Bible also makes it clear that God wants you to be a part of a church, a group of God's people: *"For you are a member of God's very own family, you belong in God's household with every other Christian..." (Ephesians 2:19(LB))* God wants his people to be in **relationship – with Him- and with each other...**

II. The First Church

A description of the 1st century church- Acts 2:41-47

... "those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. (**Membership**) They spent their time learning from the apostles, (**Maturity**) and they were like family to each other. They broke bread together and prayed together. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the Lord's followers often met together, and they shared everything they had. They would sell their property and possessions and give the money to whoever needed it. (**Ministry**) Day after day they met together in the temple, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared meals with great joy and generosity-all the while praising God (**Magnification**) and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their group those who were being saved". (**Mission**)

III. About Triple S Cowboy Church

Our Vision- To become a people that Live, Love, and Lead like Jesus

Our Mission-

Saddle up to Belong, Believe, and Build up the Body of Christ

Surrender to the Will of God, the Word of God, and the Ways of God.

Send disciples who are prepared to evangelize the lost, disciple the saints, and expand the Kingdom of God.

Our Values:

1. We value honoring God and one another.
2. We value Spiritual growth.
3. We value obedience in God's Word.
4. We value individual mission fields.
5. We value the love and grace of Jesus.
6. We value leadership empowerment and development.
7. We value reaching people through whatever means God gives us.

Our Strategy

1. **Sunday Mornings** are to celebrate and show the Goodness of God through testimonies, corporate worship, ministries, and through the Word of God.
2. **Wednesday nights** are dedicated to leadership/discipleship development.
3. **Life Groups** are designed to help us grow in Scriptural fellowship, in Spiritual leadership, in love, in faith, and in the Word of God.
4. **Special Church events** are to promote relationships and to have fun with our Family.
5. **Special Evangelical events** are to round up the lost and show them Jesus.

Our Structure

1. Governance: Through the team concept those who get their hands dirty doing the work of the ministry lead the ministry.
2. Inverted Pyramid of servant leadership, the Pastor, Elders and Lay Pastors, and Ministry Leaders serve, equip, and lead.
3. Decision-making led by Pastor, Elders and Lay Pastors, shared with Leaders, confirmed by the body; all under the headship of Christ.
4. Ministry Teams - Ministry teams shall be organized to carry out the specialized ministries of the church. One member shall be designated by the Pastor, an Elder, lay pastor or staff member to be team leader.
5. Team Members - Must love the Lord and have a desire to see His Kingdom grow, have credibility with other church members, have a passion for the mission of the team, be determined to make the team a high ministry priority in their lives.

What We Believe

Essentials (These essentials must be affirmed for membership.)

The Bible: The Bible (66 books of the Old and New Testaments) is God's Word. It is the written revelation of God to us and our only source for belief and living. It was written by human authors supernaturally inspired by the Holy Spirit. It is truth without any error.

2 Tim. 3:15-17; 2 Pet.1:20-21; Ps. 19:7-13; Ps. 119; Mt. 24:35; Mt. 5:18; Jn. 17:17

God: There is one true God who is Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three distinct and co-equal personalities: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is all knowing, all-powerful, and everywhere present at all times. He is perfect and unchanging in all his attributes: Loving, Merciful, Kind, Good, Holy, Just, Faithful, and True **Gen. 1:1 Mt. 28:19 Psalm 139:1-12, Is. 6:1-7 Psalm 136 I John 4:8 Romans 8:14-16**

Jesus Christ: Jesus Christ is co-equal with the Father and the Spirit. He is the only begotten Son of God. He has existed eternally. He was born to a virgin and lived a sinless life. He died on the cross for the sins of the world and was raised three days later to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to heaven and will return to rule as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. . **Col. 1:15-20, 2:9; John 1:1-5; Mt. 1:22-23; Is. 9:6; Heb. 1:1-3, 2:18, 4:14-15; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; Acts 1:9-11; Rev. 17:14, 19:11-16**

The Holy Spirit: The Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and the Son. He is present in the world and in the life of all believers to show mankind their need for Jesus Christ and the Truth of God's Word. He brings power for living, ministry, and witnessing to those He indwells. He gives and empowers spiritual gifts to all He indwells. He teaches and brings to remembrance the things and words of God.

Jn.14:16-17; Ro. 8:9; 1 Cor. 2:12; Jn. 16:7-13; Acts 1:8; Eph.1:13-14; Eph. 5:18; Gal 5:22-25

Man: Human beings are made in God's spiritual, moral, reasonable, and emotional image. Mankind is the supreme creation of God, created to know, love, and be like God in character. Every Human is precious and valuable to God from the moment of conception. However, sin entered the human race through Adam. Sin corrupts us all and leads us into sinful acts. Sin separates us from God and from eternal and abundant life. Every person is separated from God by the sin nature and by choice.

Genesis 1:27; Ps. 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6; Romans 3:23

Salvation: Salvation is by God's grace, accepted by faith alone. By trusting Christ and his death on the cross as the full payment for our sin, we are saved as we turn from sin to Him. Salvation is given by the grace of God and cannot be taken away. Our security is rooted in the power and promise of God who is faithful. We are completely forgiven and completely right with God from the moment of salvation.

Eph. 2:8-9; Romans 6:23; Jn. 14:6; Romans 5:1; 8:1,38-39; Titus 3:5; John 3:16; Eph. 1:13

Distinctive

Baptism: Baptism is an act of obedience to Christ that symbolizes our identification with His death, burial, and resurrection. As such it is reserved for those who have expressed their desire to be followers of Jesus Christ. Baptism is by immersion in order to illustrate the death burial and resurrection of Christ.

Mt. 3:13-17, Mk. 1:9-11, Lk. 3:21-22, Mt. 28:19-20; Acts 18:8; 1 John 2:3; Colossians 2:12; Acts 2:41

Security and Perseverance of Believers: Those who have truly placed saving faith in Christ are born spiritually and are kept secure by the promise and power of God. Their security is not based on their continued self-effort. While true believers may from time to time fall into sin or out of fellowship and ministry because of neglect of their spiritual life or other circumstances, the reality of their salvation will be shown by positive response to the loving discipline of Christ and the church. All who are truly saved will persevere in their faith in Christ until the end. **Romans 8:38-39; John 10:28-29**

Non-Essentials

Everything else! Non-essentials must not be allowed to bring us into division and distraction. We choose instead to focus on Christ, unity in Him, and ministry together.

About Our Affiliation

Our main identity is that we are a 21st century Western Heritage Church; that is, our highest loyalty is to God and His Word. We have chosen to affiliate with and agree to the statements of faith of the BGCT (Baptist General Convention of Texas) for 4 reasons: (1) They have been instrumental in raising financial support (2) The cooperative mission endeavors allow us to have a great part in world-wide ministry (3) Our doctrinal statement is in agreement with the historic denominational positions on essential matters this gives us our foundation to build from (4) BGCT (Baptist General Convention of Texas) churches are autonomous. They voluntarily choose to cooperate.

Stewardship

Triple S Cowboy Church bases all of its financial policies on Biblical principles. We do not pass an offering plate, and we do not seek to manipulate people into giving. *Biblically the church is never called to collect the tithe; however Christ followers are called to give and support the work of the church. Therefore we do not collect a tithe. We receive the offerings that people give. Since God owns everything, we see ourselves (individually and as a church) as stewards, not owners. A steward is a manager-one who manages another's property. Biblical Stewardship is expected of those who commit their lives to Christ and to church membership. The church is financed through the giving of its members.*

Part 3 Commitments

I. The Commitments of the Church

As a body, we commit to seek together to fulfill, through authentic relationships, the biblical purposes of the church as shared in this seminar. We are committed to:

Christ

Magnification - to provide opportunities to Worship God together.

Church

Membership - to give you a Family to belong to.

Maturity - to provide you opportunities to grow in Christ.

Community

Ministry - to meet each other's needs and the needs of our community.

Mission - together to build bridges between God and those who need him.

II. The Commitments of the Member

Grace - Committed to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and to share His Grace and Gospel with others.

Growth - Committed to continual Growth for the Kingdom of God.

Group - Committed to serve alongside our brothers and sisters in unity of the Spirit

Gifts - Committed to growing and sharing in the gifts God has granted.

Good Stewardship - Committed to Support the Church Financially with love and gladness of heart.

Gossip - Committed to **Oppose GOSSIP!** Nothing will divide a church or cause you to lose your witness faster than encouraging or engaging in gossip. In Triple S Cowboy Church we handle it the cowboy way FACE TO FACE!!

III. Your Response:

Final thoughts:

It is now your time to respond, and we pray that you will join our fellowship; however we do not want to rush you into making a decision. It is truly our desire to see you and your family grow even if that is not with our church. This is why we take the time to share what we are about, where we are going, and how we plan to get there. So again I say thank you for you time and I pray that wherever God leads you and your family you will be blessed beyond measure.

If you are committing to join, WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

If you still have questions, we welcome the opportunity to discover the answers together with you!

If you have decided this is not the right time for you to join we pray that you would understand we would love to have you as a partner in ministry in God's church! We **DO NOT** publicly distinguish between non-members and church members in our church services and or in our service to you and your family. We still desire to pray with you and minister to you in any way we can. We just realize that not everyone is ready to be a member right now. By not becoming a member today you in **NO WAY** disqualify yourself from becoming a member in the future. You are always welcome at Triple S Cowboy Church. Please hear me (the pastor) say once again you bless us by coming and we pray you will continue to allow us to partner with you.

Finding a Team

We believe that every person who is committed to be a part of Triple S Cowboy Church has gifts and abilities given to them by God to help this ministry grow and reach its full potential. (1 Corinthians 12) So we ask you to get involved on a ministry team. We only ask you to get involved on one team. We know that your time is important as well, and we do not want people to be overwhelmed. We believe if everyone helps in their one part then we as a church will be able to accomplish all that God has for us to do. If you feel like you would like to help start a new ministry team you may indicate that and the pastor or a lay pastor will talk with you about that possibility. You may also change teams in the future. You are not locked on this ministry team until Jesus comes back. We want you on a team where you feel you fit and are making a contribution.

Current Teams	Description
1. Arena Team	Organize and carry out arena events and activities.
2. Set Up/Clean Up Team	Set up and take down each week for Sunday Gatherin'.
3. Chuckwagon Team	Organize opportunities for food and fellowship.
4. Prayer Team	Organize and pray for church and personal needs.
5. Children's Team	Facilitate children lessons during Sunday Gatherin' and organize children's events.
6. Audit/Finance Team	Executes financial policies and procedures of Triple S.
7. Youth Team	Organize and carry out ministry to youth 7 th -12 th grade.
8. Facilities Team	Organize the care and maintenance for church facilities.
9. Worship team	Lead our congregation in corporate worship.
10. Greeting/Security	Ensures everyone feels as welcomed and safe as they would walking into heaven itself.
11. Tech Team	Facilitate Media needs and grow digital influence

Triple S Cowboy Church Membership

- I am ready to join and commit to become a part of making this a great church.
- I desire to attend Triple S and be an active partner in ministry, but do not feel called to be a member at this time.
- I need more information
- I do not want to join. Why? _____

1. Have you committed your life to Jesus Christ and trusted Him for salvation? Yes No

When? _____

2. Have you been baptized by immersion since you committed your life to Christ?

When? _____ Where? _____

I want to be baptized by Triple S Cowboy Church.

3. Do you agree to the mission, vision, and values of Triple S Cowboy Church? Yes No

Sign Name: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

4. If you are transferring your letter from another church, please fill in as many of the following blanks as you can.

Church Name _____ City _____ State _____

Phone number _____ - _____ - _____ Address _____

***** We only need 1 sheet per family*****

Date: _____

Dr./Mr./Mrs./Miss _____

Spouses Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Home Phone: _____

His Cell Phone: _____ **Her Cell Phone:** _____

His Email: _____

Her Email: _____

His Birth date Month: _____ **Day:** _____ **Year:** _____

Her Birth date Month: _____ **Day:** _____ **Year:** _____

Anniversary Month: _____ **Day:** _____ **Year:** _____

Names of Children and Birthdays:

Name: _____ **Birthday:** _____

Name: _____ **Birthday:** _____