



FIRST BAPTIST ARNOLD

# FIRST STEPS

GETTING TO KNOW  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ARNOLD

# THE FIRST STEPS WORKSHOP



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# FIRST STEPS WORKBOOK

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**SERVE MISSIONALLY**

**A SMALL GROUP**

**5**

**MAKE DISCIPLES**





# WELCOME!

## TO FIRST STEPS

**This is a basic introduction to our church family. Since we have members from many different church backgrounds, this brief workbook and subsequent sessions will hopefully answer questions you have about First Arnold. It is designed to explain who we are and how to get involved. We are glad you're here and have joined us for this study!**

# THE CHURCH IS A FAMILY

*"Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with saints and members of the household of God." Ephesians 2:19*

**KEY TRUTH #1:** The church is a \_\_\_\_\_.

You were born into a family. The church is God's family. Today, there are two references to the church.

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ church which refers to everyone who professes Christ as Savior and has followed Him in believer's baptism.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ church which is the manifestation of the universal church that is mobilized as bodies of believers all over the world.

The word in the Bible used to describe the church is *ecclesia*, which means the called out ones. The church is a body of believers that have sensed God's calling on their lives to follow Him.

**KEY TRUTH #2:** God expects you to be a \_\_\_\_\_ of a church family.

*"Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and \_\_\_\_\_ of the household of God." Ephesians 2:19*

## WHY WE EXIST AS A CHURCH

The purpose of our \_\_\_\_\_ is based on two statements that Jesus made.

1. In the Great Commandment, Matthew 22:37-39, Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself".
2. The second statement is the Great Commission, Matthew 28:18-20: "And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.' Amen."

From these key verses we get our **MISSION + VISION STATEMENTS.**

## MISSION

For God's glory, First Arnold is about \_\_\_\_\_ God's Kingdom through life-changing relationships that are biblical and relevant.

## VISION

We \_\_\_\_\_ to worship and fellowship so we can \_\_\_\_\_ into the image of Jesus and \_\_\_\_\_ make disciples of all nations for the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.



### GATHER

We come together and worship because of \_\_\_\_\_.

We proclaim the word. We are a loving \_\_\_\_\_ that finds encouragement and healing in \_\_\_\_\_. We fulfill the \_\_\_\_\_ functions of a church, which are worship, missions, discipleship, evangelism and fellowship.



### GROW

We want to become like \_\_\_\_\_. We want to be ever-growing disciples who are disciple \_\_\_\_\_.



### GO

We are gospel \_\_\_\_\_ locally and globally. We want to serve and reach \_\_\_\_\_ in all places that need Jesus.



### GLORIFY

We bring Jesus the honor and \_\_\_\_\_ that is only due to Him. His glory is our \_\_\_\_\_.



## HOW WE DO IT

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Church sponsored. Attractional. Come to our events.

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Church sponsored. Going out as a church locally and globally.

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Each individual believer living life intentionally, in a way that loves and engages the lost with the gospel.

## WHY OUR CHURCH MUST NEVER STOP GROWING

1. Because \_\_\_\_\_ loves \_\_\_\_\_.

"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9

See also: 2 Corinthians 5:14. Luke 15:3-10, Matthew 9:12-13

2. Because God \_\_\_\_\_ us to \_\_\_\_\_ out.

"Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.'" Luke 14:23

"...you shall be witnesses to Me." Acts 1:8

3. Because \_\_\_\_\_ is God's \_\_\_\_\_.

"and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God." Colossians 2:19

"I will build My church." -Jesus, Matthew 16:18

# WHAT WE BELIEVE

First Arnold is a place where the \_\_\_\_\_ can have a great time worshipping God. At FBCA, there is programming for all age groups - all built on a solid, biblical foundation that undergirds everything we do.

You will enjoy the dynamic \_\_\_\_\_ and grow in your faith through one of our small group Bible studies. We look forward to seeing you in one of our worship services or Bible studies.

Southern Baptists have prepared a statement of generally held convictions called the Baptist Faith and Message. It serves as a guide to understanding who we are. Copies are available at FBCA. Here are some highlights:

## **GOD**

"There is \_\_\_\_\_ one living and true God... The eternal God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence or being."

## **THE SCRIPTURES**

"The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is the record of God's revelation of Himself to man... It has \_\_\_\_\_ for its author, \_\_\_\_\_ for its end, and \_\_\_\_\_, without any mixture of \_\_\_\_\_, for its matter... The criterion by which the Bible is to be interpreted is Jesus Christ."

## **THE CHURCH**

"A \_\_\_\_\_ church of the Lord Jesus Christ is a local body of baptized believers who are associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel...and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of



the earth.... This church is an autonomous body... The New Testament speaks also of the church as the body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages."

## **SALVATION**

"Salvation involves the \_\_\_\_\_ of the whole man and is offered \_\_\_\_\_ to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense, salvation includes regeneration, sanctification and glorification."

Salvation is God's \_\_\_\_\_ to save us from the penalty of our sin and mistakes.

## **THE KINGDOM**

"The Kingdom of God includes both His general \_\_\_\_\_ over the universe and His particular \_\_\_\_\_ over men who willfully acknowledge Him as \_\_\_\_\_. Particularly, the Kingdom is the realm of salvation into which men enter by trustful, childlike \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus Christ... The full consummation of the Kingdom awaits the return of Jesus Christ and the end of this age."

## **EVANGELISM + MISSIONS**

"It is the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of every Christ follower and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of \_\_\_\_\_ ...to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by personal effort..."

# BRIEF HISTORY OF FBICA

First Baptist Church of Arnold had its beginning \_\_\_\_\_, in a meeting at Fox school. There were thirty charter members at that time.

The church has had several locations over the past 70+ years. It first met in various homes and from there secured a meeting place in Flamm City for a brief period of time. From there the church moved to Woodman Hall in Kimmswick. Finally, the church secured a two-acre site in what was then known as Maxville but is now known as Arnold. Through the years great success and growth has come to the First Baptist Church of Arnold. The church has grown from a small basement on the two-acre site to the beautiful facilities now present on their 25 acre tract of land.

The church has grown from those 30 charter members to over \_\_\_\_\_ members from its humble limited facilities and church programs, to its present beautiful facilities and its well-rounded programs for all age groups.

First Baptist Church has first of all Bible centered, Christ honoring worship services on Sunday mornings. Our small group Bible studies are age appropriate and designed to meet the needs of every person.

Many fine people have worked hard in giving their finances and their strength to make First Baptist Church of Arnold the church it is today. However, as we look to the future, many more will have to give in the same unselfish way to build an even \_\_\_\_\_ for God in this community.

## OUR AFFILIATION

1. To which organizations do we belong?

- Jefferson Baptist Association (JBA) is a group of over 40 churches that work together to reach Jefferson County Missouri.
- Missouri Baptist Convention (MBC) is a network of 1,800 Southern Baptist churches that work together to carry out the Great Commission.
- The Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) is composed of 48,000 churches that cooperate together in a worldwide effort of missions supporting over 10,000 missionaries.

2. What is the \_\_\_\_\_?

- It is the largest association of Christian churches in America. One out of every 10 churches in America is affiliated with the SBC (48,000 churches and 16 million members which is more than most other denominations combined).
- It is the most diverse association of churches. SBC churches include every race, nationality and ethnic group. Each Sunday, services are held in over 80 languages in the U.S.
- It is one of the fastest growing groups. Southern Baptists baptize hundreds of new Christ followers each day in the U.S. and begin nearly 3 new churches a day!

3. Why not just be an independent church?

- We are an independent church! Every SBC church is completely autonomous. There is no denominational control or hierarchy, as there is in most other denominations. Each church is self-governed and determines its own affairs, for example:
  - a. Every SBC church chooses its own pastor.
  - b. Every SBC church owns its own buildings and assets.
  - c. Every SBC church determines its own programs.

4. What are the advantages of affiliating with the SBC?

- It allows us to identify with other Christ followers around the world who are known for their commitment to the Bible. Unlike other groups, the SBC has no man-made creed. The Bible is our only authority.
- It allows our church to participate in the largest missionary organization in the world. Through the "Cooperative Program we help support over \_\_\_\_\_ missionaries in \_\_\_\_\_ countries around the world."

# CONNECT MAGAZINE OVERVIEW

PLEASE USE YOUR  
CONNECT MAGAZINE  
FOR THIS SECTION



## ANSWER KEY

PG 04 // FAMILY // UNIVERSAL // LOCAL // MEMBER // MEMBERS // CHURCH

PG 05 // BUILDING // GATHER // GROW // GO // GLORIFY // JESUS // FAMILY //  
COMMUNITY // FIVE // JESUS // MAKERS // BEACONS // ALL PEOPLE //  
GLORY // ULTIMATE, PURPOSE

PG 06 // INVITE // INVADE // INVEST // GOD // PEOPLE // COMMANDS // REACH  
// GROWTH // WILL

PG 07 // WHOLE, FAMILY // WORSHIP, SERVICES // ONE // ONLY // GOD //  
SALVATION /// TRUTH // ERROR // NEW, TESTAMENT

PG 08 // REDEMPTION // FREELY // RESCUE, PLAN // SOVEREIGNTY // KINGSHIP  
// KING // COMMITMENT // DUTY // PRIVILEGE // ALL, NATIONS

PG 09 // MAY 27, 1951 // 7,000 // GREATER, WITNESS

PG 10 // SOUTHERN, BAPTIST, CONVENTION // 5,000 // 104











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